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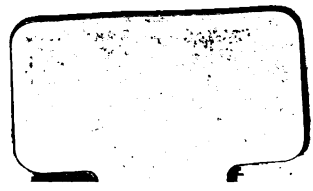

MONTHLY NOTES

OF THE

LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

OF THE

UNITED KINGDOM.

VOL. 3.

EDITED BY ERNEST C. THOMAS,
Hon. Secretary.

LONDON:
TRÜBNER & CO., LUDGATE HILL.
1882.

P 2589. e. 1.

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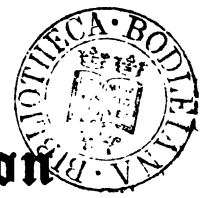
VOL. 3. NO. 1.] [*January* 16, 1882.

MONTHLY NOTES

OF THE

Library Association

of the United Kingdom.



Contents:—Official Notices—January Monthly Meeting: Paper by Mr. Ballinger, "Jottings from My Note-Book"—Library Notes—Catalogues and Reports—Notes and Queries—Supplement: List of Members for 1882.

THE next Monthly Meeting of the Association will be held at the London Institution, Finsbury Circus, on Friday, February 3rd, 1882, when Mr. Ernest C. Thomas will read a Paper, entitled "Professor Dziatzko on the British Museum."

We regret to have to announce that Mr. E. B. Nicholson has resigned his seat upon the Council of the Association.

By an unfortunate error a paragraph was omitted from the Report of the Council on the Question of a Journal for the Association, which was printed in our last number. Among the recommendations (vol. ii., p. 99) should have appeared one to the effect—

> "That Members of the Association receive the enlarged MONTHLY NOTES, post free, on prepayment of 2*s.* yearly."

The appointment of an Hon. Editor for MONTHLY NOTES in its enlarged form has not yet been made, and the present number has been edited by the Hon. Secretaries.

An eight-page Supplement is issued with this Number, containing a Revised List of Members for the present year.

The attention of Members is particularly called to the fact that the Meetings of Committees will henceforth be held on the same

evenings as the Monthly Meetings. The Committee appointed to prepare Illustrations to the Cataloguing Rules (being a Committee of the whole Association) will meet after the Monthly Meeting of the 3rd February next.

JANUARY MONTHLY MEETING.

THE Fourth Monthly Meeting of the Fifth Year of the Association was held at the London Institution, on Friday, January 6th, at 8 p.m., Mr. B. R. WHEATLEY, V.P., in the chair.

The minutes of the last meeting having been read and confirmed, the Chairman expressed his regret that he had to announce the death of Major-General Stewart Allen, of Richmond, one of our members.

The following gentlemen were announced as having joined the Association :—Mr. J. O. Griffits, Q.C., The Priory, High Wycombe; Mr. Alfred G. Cook, Librarian, London Society of Compositors, 3, Racquet Court, Fleet Street, London, E.C.; Mr. G. F. Hilcken, Librarian, The Hall, London Street, Bethnal Green, E.

Mr. H. S. Ashbee, 46, Upper Bedford Place, London, W.C., was proposed and seconded by the Secretaries for election at the next meeting.

The Chairman then called upon one of the Secretaries to read Mr. Ballinger's Paper, entitled—

JOTTINGS FROM MY NOTE-BOOK.

I keep a note-book! And perhaps it would not be out of place to say why. Well, my note-book first came into existence in this way. A gentleman who had been engaged in library work as a youth, but who has forsaken book-dust for a desk in a railway office, and who still takes a very deep interest in everything relating to libraries, was one day, about four years ago, propounding a most utopian scheme for the issuing of books, one which, according to his idea, was certain ultimately to be the universal system of issuing from libraries, and compared to which registers, indicators, and so on were simply childish. I had grave doubts; was, in fact, quite sceptical; but my friend suggested that I should make a note of his plan, so that it could be referred to in the future. Hence arose my note-book, called "Library Notes." I made a note of my friend's perfect system, and there are many other notes touching other strange suggestions, worked out in black and white to a point, which point is often "absurdity." But it is a very good plan to keep a note-book. It has often been of great service to me; the writing of it has been a source of very great pleasure, and it affords a great deal of amusement to read over some of the entries when they have almost, if not quite, been forgotten.

The subject which I abstract for this paper forms a recent entry, the date being May, 1881. About that time I made a calculation of the number of persons using this (Doncaster Public) Library, the

number of families represented, and the number of families and burgesses unrepresented. The result showed that, with a population of 21,130, consisting of about 5,000 to 6,000 families, only about one in six of the families was represented amongst the borrowers from the Library. This recalled to my mind an idea which had occurred to me some years ago, viz.: that it would be possible in some way to convey a guarantee form, belonging to the Library, to every house in the district in which the Library's books were not found, and at the same time to give a little advice on the mode of procedure at these institutions. The desirability of this was very apparent. Here, for example, is a Library, capable of accommodating all the people in the town over a reasonable age, say twelve, with books, and maintained at the expense of the people, share and share alike, in proportion to their circumstances. And yet many of these people are ignorant of the objects, extent, mode of working, and, above all, the freedom of the Library, which is, practically, their property. That it is meant for them, or that they have a perfect right to use its books, has never occurred to many of them. Again, there are many people who are always on the point of applying for tickets, but somehow the first step always seems as far off as ever, and they never pluck up the courage to take it. Something that would overcome these difficulties appeared a very desirable thing to discover, and the method I tried is this. A circular letter worded as follows :—

BOROUGH FREE LIBRARY, St. George's Gate, Doncaster,
April, 1881.

SIR,—I beg to draw your attention to the many advantages which this Library affords to the townspeople. The Library was established and is carried on solely on behalf of the people resident, rated, or employed within the borough, and it is open to them entirely free of cost. The departments are—

1. LENDING DEPARTMENT.

This is a circulating Library. Persons may, by getting a guarantee form signed by a burgess of the borough (or, in the case of a burgess, by signing for themselves), borrow, for reading at home, any of the books contained in the catalogue of the Lending Department. This department is open daily from 10 a.m to 9 p.m., except on Wednesdays, when it closes at 2 p.m.

2. REFERENCE DEPARTMENT.

This department provides books to be read in a room set apart for the purpose at the Library. It is only necessary to make application at the Library counter for the use of a book in this department, which is open during the same hours as the Lending Department.

3. THE NEWS-ROOM.

The News-room is open daily, from 9 a.m. to 10 p.m. All the leading local and London daily and weekly papers are taken. The comic papers, *Illustrated London News*, *Graphic*, *Engineer*, *Building News*, &c., the principal monthly magazines and time-tables, are provided.

A catalogue of the books is on sale at the Library, price 9*d*.

The number of volumes in the Library is 11,000.

I enclose a form of application for a borrower's ticket, by filling up which and returning it to me, you will become entitled to borrow books from the Lending Department.

I am, your obedient servant,
JOHN BALLINGER,
Librarian.

A copy of this letter, accompanied by a voucher form, was sent to every person on the burgess list of the borough, who was not represented amongst the borrowers from the Library. Between 3,000 and 4,000 were sent out, packed in envelopes, and addressed to the person for whom it was intended, viz., the unliterary burgess who was guilty of neglecting the Library.

First let me say how it was done, and what was the cost. The latter item is, perhaps, the most suggestive of difficulty. The cost of our venture was :

4,000	Circular Letters, at 10*s.* 6*d.* per 1,000 .	£2	2	0
„	Voucher Forms „ „ .	2	2	0
„	Envelopes 5*s.* „ .	1	0	0
	Total cost	£5	4	0

The total expenditure was £5 4*s.* Surely this is a very small sum for so great a work. The envelopes were addressed, the vouchers and letters were folded, &c., and the delivery of them was accomplished, entirely by the Library staff, consisting of myself and two assistants. The time taken to accomplish the work was between two and three weeks; and I cannot miss the opportunity of saying how willingly and persistently my assistants tried to further my plans.

Secondly, why it was done. Because the Committee felt with me that the Library was not doing its maximum of work, would be, perhaps, the best reason ; but there are sundry minor ones. The town of Doncaster is a singular one in many senses. There have been no Cambridge University Lectures or other educating influences of a similar nature brought to bear here, to excite the interest of the people in those walks of literature which very few people are spontaneously prone to, but which many people delight in when the suggestion comes in a practical form from without. The people, too, are of a somewhat reserved and old-fashioned type, and are not quick to adopt new customs and new ideas; they look upon them rather with suspicion. But to the credit of the town be it recorded that the Public Libraries Act was adopted, twelve years ago, with only one dissentient (and, by the way, two members of that antagonistic gentleman's family now use the Library), a time when the Public Libraries question had not assumed the importance which it has in these later days, and when Public Libraries were mainly confined to large towns. Taking these peculiar characteristics of the people into consideration, it is not much to be wondered at that the Library did not progress very rapidly. During the first year of the Library's existence 16,989 books were issued; in 1876 the number had dropped to 12,201; during the year just closed over 50,000 volumes were issued to 34,518 persons. This letter was sent, then, to awaken the interest of the people in the Library of which they are the proprietors. The newness of the institution had worn off, and the time was ripe for fixing its attractions in the hearts of the people; it was done to prevent the Library from

falling into an institution of secondary interest—to place it, as it ought to be, in the front rank among the established institutions of the town.

And now for an objection which was put forth by the very first person to whom this plan was propounded. "Are we supposed to go out of our way to persuade the people to come to the Library, if they don't choose to come of their own accord." The gentleman who made the remark just quoted is a man of few words; a month after the above expression was used, when all the circulars had been sent out, his brief but very suggestive criticism was, "It's a step in the right direction." I think we certainly ought to turn aside from the beaten path if it will do good:

"To do a great right, do a little wrong."

It will only be necessary to do it once in several years; and the good effect it is sure to have upon the attitude of the people towards the Public Libraries will be, in itself, ample compensation for the trouble entailed. But there is the other point, also, of how much it will contribute to the success of the particular Library in connection with which this little piece of machinery is put on its trial. The Public Libraries of the country have yet much to accomplish before they can be called efficient. The L. A. U. K. will do much, but the individual action of librarians in their own towns will do more. The effort to improve must not cease until the Libraries are to the people a household word. Every encouragement ought to be given to improvement and to an increased facility for enabling every person to obtain books, in whatever form the improvements may present themselves. The Committees of Public Libraries are, in some cases, a great barrier to the march of improvement. A lack of spirit and enterprise on the part of the Committee should be remedied by the Librarian drawing their attention to improvements that it would be desirable to introduce. The millennium of Public Libraries is not yet; but improvement is steadily going on, the ball must be kept rolling, and an extra push must be given now and then to send it along quicker. There are some Libraries sadly in need of such a push at the present time, and, of course, my argument is, that the plan which has been so successful here will be equally or more successful elsewhere. I do not mean to say that it works like a miracle; it does not. The immediate result is a great accession of borrowers; the after-effect it would be impossible to calculate. Vouchers sent out with the letters in May last are constantly being returned even now (January, 1882), seven months after their first issue. By far the best time of year to send the circulars out would be towards the end, about October or November, but, on account of the accumulation of business towards the end of the year, I was compelled to select April and May for commencing operations.

Having said so much about a very simple expedient, I commend it to the careful consideration of my fellow Librarians.

Annual Reports.—Just a short note occurs in my note-book on

the sizes of Annual Reports. It refers to the inconvenience of having them of such a variety of sizes, making it impossible to have them conveniently and uniformly bound together. Would it not be a great improvement if one size could be agreed upon, and strictly adhered to? I would suggest royal 8vo, or perhaps I should call it large 8vo. I have chosen this size, not from any predilection in its favour—our printer says it is a very ugly size—but because, in matters such as this, it is the best to follow the lead of the large Libraries, and Manchester, Liverpool, Birmingham, and Leeds all have their reports of the large 8vo size.

After a brief discussion a vote of thanks was passed to Mr. Ballinger for his communication.

A discussion arose upon the best way of securing a fuller attendance of members of committees, and it was proposed and carried:—

"That in future the Meetings of Committees be held on the *first* Friday of the month, but so as not to interfere with the hours of meeting of the Council and of the Monthly Meetings."

Some conversation also took place upon the subject of the recent sale of some of their sets of periodicals by the Library of the Patent Office. It was agreed to adjourn the further consideration of a motion expressing regret at this step until fuller information should be obtained.

The meeting then adjourned.

LIBRARY NOTES.

HALIFAX.—The Committee of the Public Library, Halifax, have advertised for a librarian, and appear to expect that they will find "a person who has had experience in the management of a Public Library" for the salary of £80 per annum. We hope they may have succeeded.

HIGH WYCOMBE.—A conference was held at Wycombe on the 16th of last month, which had been convened by the Mayor to consider what can be done towards providing for the maintenance of the Free Library in that town. Mr. J. O. Griffits, Q.C., has maintained the Library for some years at his own expense, and has offered to convey the building, upon which he has spent some £2,500, to trustees for the benefit of the town, if the townspeople would raise a sufficient endowment fund for its support, and if the trustees undertake to carry on the Library until the fund is provided. The expense of maintenance is estimated at £120 per annum. About £1,000 has been already contributed, including £400 from Mr. Griffits himself. A special feature in this case is that Mr. Griffits declines to accept the rate system, and stipulates that the maintenance of the Library must be secured by a permanent fund. His reason for this appears to be that in the case of a small town the burden on the rates might at some time or other be found irksome, and thus the Library might suffer or even be discontinued. He believes also that a voluntary institution is more

likely to stimulate others to offer it substantial assistance. It will, at all events, be interesting to observe the success of the experiment. The Library has been very successful, and the people of Wycombe seem fully conscious that it will be a great misfortune if the generosity and public spirit shown by Mr. Griffits do not find a suitable response from his fellow-townsmen.

LONDON: METEOROLOGICAL OFFICE.—A grant has been made towards the expense of making a card catalogue of the Library of the Meteorological Office, which consists of some five or six thousand books and pamphlets. The accessions are to be printed, and it is to be hoped that, in course of time, the Department will print the entire catalogue.

OXFORD: BODLEIAN LIBRARY.—The following gentlemen are amongst the candidates for the vacant head librarianship:—Mr. Richard Garnett, of the British Museum; Mr. E. B. Nicholson, of the London Institution; and Prof. R. K. Douglas, of the British Museum. The appointment appears to be indefinitely postponed.

PARIS: MUNICIPAL LIBRARIES.—The number of the municipal libraries has been still further increased. In 1878 there were only five; in 1879 they had increased to eleven; while at the end of 1881 there were seventeen. Three new ones will probably be opened this year, and then the whole of the arrondissements of Paris will be provided with libraries attached to their respective *mairies*. The grant for the coming year has been fixed at 95,875 francs. The seventeen libraries contain about 70,000 volumes, and during the past year they have been visited by upwards of 250,000 readers and borrowers.

LIBRARY CATALOGUES AND REPORTS.

Supplement to the Catalogue of the Free Public Library, Sydney, for the years 1877 and 1878. Reference Department. (Sydney, 1880.) 4to, pp. iv. 370.

A handsomely printed catalogue, in which the books are divided into twelve classes, with the titles in full, under authors' names. Pressmarks are given at the end of each entry. There is also a very elaborate "Analytical, Classified Index," where the books are to be found not only under author, subject and short title, but also "by the title under its classification," and by all the leading words of the title-page. The preface is signed "R. C. Walker, Principal Librarian."

Newcastle-upon-Tyne. First Annual Report of the Public Libraries Committee. 1880-81. 8vo, pp. 47.

The first report of the Newcastle Public Libraries contains a retrospect of the movement for the establishment of the Libraries, and a graceful recognition of the services rendered by Mr. Haggerston, "in spite of constant and heavy private affliction." The number of volumes in the Lending Library is 23,976; in the Reference Library, 3,771. The number of readers' tickets in use is 13,929, nearly one-half of which are used by burgesses. On the average, each borrower has taken out 21·67 volumes. The Committee notice with regret that they have received £119 3*s.* 1*d.* for fines. The income received from the rate is £2,803 19*s.*; from other sources, £839 7*s.* 6*d.* Including the cost of the Educational Classes carried on by the Committee, the expenditure has been

£3,593 8*s.* 5*d.* The estimated cost of the new building is £20,000. The issues of fiction have been strikingly low, as compared with other public libraries—under 43 per cent. of the total issues. In addition to other statistical tables, the Report furnishes a considerable quantityof illustrations of the number of times the favourite works in each class have been issued. The information thus supplied is very interesting. There are also supplied lists of the books read by fifteen readers of different classes. The Report concludes with an account of the educational work carried on, being that commenced by the Newcastle Mechanics' Institution in 1824. In this department, also, the year's work has shown most encouraging progress.

LEEDS.—Eleventh Annual Report of the Leeds Public Library, 1880-81. 8vo, pp. 20.

Mr. Yates reports an advance of 61,148 issues on the previous year. The total issues for the year, in addition to the use made of the Reference Library, were in the Central Lending Library 285,593 volumes, in the Branch Lending Libraries 354,020 volumes. A new branch is to be formed at the Bennett Road Board School, Headingley, which will bring the number of branches up to 22. The total income for the year was £5,479 11*s.* 2*d.*, of which sum the rate produced £4,649 8*s.* 4*d.*, and other sources £509 14*s.* 8*d.*, including £329 9*s.* 8*d.* from fines. The total number of volumes in stock is 109,202; 3,570 applications have been made to borrowers by post-card for the return of books. Tables are appended giving details of the stock, issues, and finance.

NOTES AND QUERIES.

HAYDN'S DICTIONARY OF DATES: LIST OF LIBRARIES.—Mr. Bone (MONTHLY NOTES, vol. ii. p. 96) finds it "singular" that the well-known Octavian and Palatine Libraries founded by Augustus are not recorded in the list given in "Haydn's Dictionary of Dates." It would be well indeed if this were a "singular" omission; but there is no mention of the still more famous Ulpian Library. The list contains, in fact, only *six* libraries at all for the whole period B.C., and is extremely poor and uncritical throughout. C.

LIBRARIES: NEWCASTLE AND REIGATE.—Can one of your Newcastle readers give me any information about the Thomlinson Library at Newcastle-on-Tyne? It is spoken of as valuable in *Notes and Queries*, vol. i. p. 391, where it is also said that a handsome building was erected for it early last century near St. Nicholas' Church, and that a catalogue of its contents has been published.

I should also like to learn something about the "little Library adjoining Reigate Church," which is described in the same volume of *Notes and Queries* (pp. 6, 7) as occupying the upper chamber of a building on the north side of the chancel. Is it a parochial Library, and does it still exist? It does not appear in the list of Parochial Libraries printed in the first volume of our Transactions.

T.

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Library Association

OF THE

United Kingdom.

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The Secretaries request that they may be informed of alterations of residence, and of any errors or omissions which may be noticed in the List of Members.

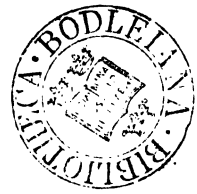
VOL. 3. No. 2.] [*February* 14, 1882.

MONTHLY NOTES

OF THE

Library Association

of the United Kingdom.



Contents:—Official Notices—February Monthly Meeting: Paper by Mr. Ernest C. Thomas, "Professor Dziatzko on the British Museum"—Library Notes—Catalogues and Reports—Notices of Bibliographies—Notices of Books—Notes and Queries.

THE next Monthly Meeting of the Association will be held at the London Institution, Finsbury Circus, on Friday, March 3rd, 1882, when the Adjourned Debate on Mr. Ernest C. Thomas's Paper, entitled "Professor Dziatzko on the British Museum," will be taken.

The following corrections and additions should be made in the List of Members printed as a Supplement to the January number:—

Additions.—COOKE (Rev. Canon W.), 6, Clifton Place, Sussex Square, Hyde Park, London, W.; GREVEL (H.), 33, King Street, Covent Garden, London, W.C.

Corrections.—Mr. J. MAITLAND ANDERSON should be described as Librarian, University Library, St. Andrew's; Mr. F. S. HERNE should be described as Librarian, Leicester Permanent Library, 19, Granby Street, Leicester; Mr. ROBERTSON, of Aberdeen, should be Mr. A. W. ROBERTSON.

The Edinburgh volume has now been issued to Members from the Chiswick Press. As there appears to be some little misapprehension on the subject on the part of some Members, it may be as well to explain that this volume is issued for the subscription paid for the year ending October 4th, 1880. It was by an accident that the Edinburgh Meeting, as a matter of fact, was held on the 5th, 6th, and 7th of October, and therefore, strictly speaking, not within the financial year. This will probably not occur again.

The Hon. Editorship of MONTHLY NOTES for the present year has been undertaken by Mr. Ernest C. Thomas.

It was by a misunderstanding that Mr. G. F. Hilcken was announced in our last number as having become a Member of the Association.

It will greatly assist the Hon. Secretaries in making arrangements for the issue of the London volume, if as many Members as possible will forward to them a note of the remarks they made in the course of the Annual Meeting at Gray's Inn, in September last. It is hoped also that those papers which are not yet in the Secretaries' hands may be returned to them as early as is convenient.

FEBRUARY MONTHLY MEETING.

The Fifth Monthly Meeting of the Fifth Year of the Association was held at the London Institution, on Friday, February 3rd, at 8 p.m., Mr. Cornelius Walford, V.P., in the chair.

The minutes of the last meeting having been read and confirmed, Mr. H. S. Ashbee, who was proposed for election at the last Monthly Meeting, was duly elected.

Mr. Octavius M. Johnson, Assistant in the Cambridge University Library, was reported by the Rev. S. S. Lewis, one of the local secretaries for Cambridge, as having joined the Association.

A copy of the Catalogue of the Library of the Museum of Practical Geology and Geological Survey was reported as having been presented to the Association through Mr. T. W. Newton, one of its compilers.

The Chairman then called upon Mr. Ernest C. Thomas to read his Paper, entitled

Professor Dziatzko on the British Museum.

There has appeared in a recent number of the *Preussische Jahrbücher*, a long article on the Library and Reading-room of the British Museum, by Professor Karl Dziatzko, Librarian of the University Library at Breslau. Apart from his position as a classical scholar, there can be no question of Professor Dziatzko's qualifications to speak as a critic. The library of which he is in charge at Breslau is entitled to be reckoned high in the second rank of the libraries which are inferior only to the great national collections, such as those of Paris and of London. The Breslau library has 350,000 printed books, 250,000 pamphlets and dissertations, and 4,000 MSS. Moreover, Professor Dziatzko has evidently taken great pains to acquaint himself thoroughly with the best sources of information as to the history and management of the collections at the Museum, and he has had the advantage of considerable personal familiarity with the working of the arrangements in the library. We shall certainly not listen here the less readily to his views and suggestions, because he is one of our members, having joined us at our Oxford Meeting in 1878.

Professor Dziatzko was good enough to send me an "Abdruck" of his paper, and it appeared to me that it might not be an uninteresting contribution to our evening's bill of fare, if I were to lay before you the critical portions of Professor Dziatzko's article, omitting the expository and descriptive matters as being already more or less familiar to us.

The writer begins by dealing very briefly with the arrangement of the books upon the shelves. He observes that this arrangement is not strictly systematic, although there is a certain rough classification. He declines to go into the old controversy, whether, in arranging the books themselves, the preference is to be given to a strictly systematic distribution, or a distribution based upon merely practical considerations, such as those of space and so on. In the case of such enormous libraries as that of the Museum, where space must be economised as much as possible, and where, moreover, there is no free access to the shelves, but as many books as he chooses to ask for are brought to the reader without any hesitation, the system actually adopted at the Museum may prove sufficient. But, he observes, the one necessary—even indispensable compensation for the defects of such a system is a really good and complete Subject Catalogue, and this is entirely wanting at the Museum. With regard to the arrangement of the Alphabetical Catalogue, as regards convenience and utility, the gigantic labour of arranging and placing at the disposition of the public a mass of about a million titles, in a handy and legible shape, and on a fixed and consistently worked-out principle, deserves ungrudging recognition and admiration. To anyone who is merely in search of the works of a particular author, the catalogue will supply without difficulty adequate information. But it cannot be denied that the catalogue ceases to be a reliable guide as soon as we come to the titles of anonymous books or to collective works. Then it exhibits the defects which are peculiar to English bibliography generally, namely, the intrusion of "subject" standpoints into the alphabetical arrangement, the unnecessary and aimless sacrifice of the principle of form to that of matter.

From weaknesses of this kind, modern French and German catalogues are generally free. As an illustration, Professor Dziatzko mentions that at the Museum, periodicals of all kinds—*e.g.*, Annals, Year-books, Journals, Monthlies, Zeitschriften, Reviews—are collected under the catchword "Periodical Publications," and without any cross reference under the distinguishing word of the particular title. The finding of the title sought is made still more difficult by the publications of Learned Societies and Ephemerides being under separate heads.

Having disposed of the remarks upon these two points, I will now call your attention to Professor Dziatzko's general criticism of the general administration of the Museum, and here I shall follow his words more closely:

If we now sum up our judgment as to the administration of the printed and manuscript treasures of the British Museum, and

indicate, together with its chief merits, a few points in which the present arrangements admit, if they do not require, some further development, we must, above all, emphasize with the utmost praise the constant effort to make these treasures fully and conveniently available. This leading feature of all the arrangements at the British Museum, which is kept continually alive and active by the force of public opinion, explains the past success of the institution, as it will also lead to still further advances. The hours of access are as extended as is conceivable, and are, in fact, limited only by the necessity of keeping the rooms clean and by the length of daylight. As soon as a more extended application of the electric light was shown to be possible, its use was introduced into the Reading-room. The same spirit of genuine liberality is displayed in bringing to the reader any book or any MS. that the Museum possesses, without any exception and without any further formality, as well as without any further delay than is imposed by the need of supplying the wants of so many readers at the same time. (Professor Dziatzko calls attention, in a note, to the inconvenience of the practice of the Bibliothèque Nationale in Paris, where books and MSS. can only be consulted in separate apartments.)

Next to the truly liberal conception of the nature and object of public libraries, and the consequent care for the interests of the public, Professor Dziatzko's admiration was excited by the great security and order with which the administration and use of the great number of books and MSS. are carried on. In the eight weeks during which Professor Dziatzko worked at the Museum, not a single one of all the many books and MSS. he asked for was reported as not to be found, or as at the binder's. Often the books he wanted were in use, but that this was not a mere empty formula to cover a careless search was always shown by the fact that soon the book was brought to him. Defects, again, of any kind, are the greatest possible rarities at the Museum. The administration is greatly aided in maintaining this good order by a strict adherence to the rule that no book or MS. is ever allowed to be taken out of the rooms of the Museum. This rule may, he observes, appear to Germans, who are accustomed to regard libraries as places to take books from, and in Germany, where libraries lend each other their treasures, from one town to another, and from one country to another, as illiberal and absurd. But, for the circumstances of London, the rule is, in Professor Dziatzko's opinion, entirely suitable. And it is a great thing for the reader at the Museum to know that he may straightway have the use of any book indicated in the catalogue, unless, of course, it is in the hands of some other reader in the building.

The third great merit of the administration of the British Museum is the thoroughly practical and consistent character of its arrangements as a whole. Upon a few thoroughly right leading principles is based the whole complicated framework of the administration, which easily admits of being supplemented or improved in more or less important points, but which is admirably put together, and

which in practice has been found most successful. This brings us to the points in which Prof. Dziatzko thinks that there may be room for improvement.

He regards as an essential want the entire absence of a Subject Catalogue of the printed books. To supply this want is one of the most pressing duties of the administration, and scholars will continually have to call attention to this keenly-felt *desiderium*. A very inadequate substitute is supplied by the printed bibliographical helps which have recently been placed in considerable numbers in the Reading-room, and of which a special catalogue has been prepared by Mr. G. W. Porter. It is obvious, however, that these helps do not suffice to give the reader ready and complete information as to the books upon his special subject that exist in literature generally, or in the British Museum in particular. Would it not be possible, asks Professor Dziatzko, to break up one of the three existing copies of the alphabetical catalogue (he might have said to take the spare slips, of which one set is kept in boxes roughly classified), and arrange the slips according to subject? If portions of the Subject Catalogue, dealing with departments in which the Museum is specially rich, were printed and published, the volumes so produced would find willing purchasers, and the Museum could itself use these printed catalogues for cutting up, so as gradually to substitute print for the old written title-slips in the Alphabetical Catalogue. The plan of printing the Museum catalogue, which has again been ventilated for some years by the Museum authorities, and the carrying out of which is actually in preparation, Prof. Dziatzko regards as a mistake, and entirely agrees on this point with Dr. Edward Reyer, of the University of Vienna, who some time ago began an agitation upon this subject.* The sacrifice of labour and money which so colossal an undertaking would demand would not be compensated by advantages which would be limited to the rooms of the British Museum. Probably, too, the execution of the scheme will halt at the beginning, as was the case with the printed folio catalogue of forty years ago, of which only the first volume appeared, containing the letter A. The scheme, indeed, this time appears to be somewhat differently planned. To begin with, only a catalogue of the books printed in England, or in English, to the year 1640 is to be published. If, as is probably the case, the Museum is especially rich in this department, then such a lexicon would form a substantial contribution to that work which is being actively prepared, viz., a bibliographical lexicon of printed English literature. Perhaps the General Catalogue Committee might later confine itself to issuing a supplemental volume, to include all the English books to the year 1640 which are contained only in other libraries. In Prof. Dziatzko's judgment, however, the most useful task for the Museum to undertake would be to concentrate its powers upon preparing a Subject Catalogue, and upon publishing it wholly or in part.

* *See* Petzholdt's Anzeiger, 1879, S. 313 f.

In the second place, it must be deplored as a misfortune that the periodical literature is not accessible to readers until the end of a complete year or volume. Not so much in the interests of foreigners, but, as Professor Dziatzko believes, in the interests of native scholars, who cannot all be in a position to take in themselves the special periodicals that interest them, or to become members of some club well provided with journals, it must be noted, as a defect, that in the great and richly provided British Museum it is impossible for the student to keep himself in sympathy and abreast with the latest tendencies and suggestions as they are displayed in special periodicals. If it were only possible to have the separate parts of the periodicals arranged in compartments somewhere near the Reading-room, and to provide them with provisional press-marks, corresponding with a provisional catalogue in the Reading-room, which should be regularly kept up to date, then readers would be able to ask for those parts and numbers as they ask for books.

In the third place, Professor Dziatzko has felt it himself to be an inconvenience, and has heard similar complaints from others, that new books take a very long time before they have gone through all the necessary stages and are put at the disposition of the reader. In 1878, for example, as is shown by a ticket before him, Professor Dziatzko asked for the *Sitzungsberichte der Wiener Akademie, Philos.-hist. Klasse*, 1876 and 1877, and received the written answer that the year 1874 was the "last available." No doubt the accumulation of work accounts for this, besides the time necessary for binding, but it would be very desirable that some economy in the business processes employed, such as Professor Dziatzko elsewhere in his paper suggests the possibility of, should render it possible to lessen the time necessary to render new books available for use.

Finally, in Professor Dziatzko's opinion, the entire Reference Library is in urgent need of a stringent revision, as regards the utility of its 20,000 volumes from our present scientific and literary standpoint. Since the Library was first formed under Sir Antonio Panizzi, little appears to have been done to keep this collection up to the mark by substituting the best and latest literary helps for those which have become obsolete. In September, 1878, for instance, the old edition of the first volume of Pauly's *Realencyklopädie* was still in the Reading-room, while the two volumes of the new edition were lying unbound in the General Library—incorrectly described moreover in the catalogue as "to be continued." Of Forcellini's Latin Lexicon there is no mention in the printed catalogue of the Reference Library in 1871 either of Schneeberger's edition or of any of the later ones (De Vit or Corradini). As to the "leading works" in the department of German Literature, the state of things may be estimated from the fact that neither the Lachmann nor the Lachmann-v. Maltzahn edition of Lessing was in the Reading-room, and of Goethe there was only a Paris reprint of 1835, in five volumes. Of Ranke's histories, surely the "English History in the 16th and 17th

Centuries" ought not to be wanting. With this defect may be coupled another, that in other respects the supply of books in the Museum, at all events in the extensive department of Classical Philology, leaves very much to be desired as regards the acquisitions of the last ten years. Ready as the higher officers in the Reading-room are to supply at once the deficiencies pointed out to them, yet an institution like the British Museum ought not to wait for a casual and tardy suggestion from without, in order to procure such books as Keil's *Grammatici Latini* or Reiferscheid's edition of Suetonius, &c., &c.; and Professor Dziatzko adds: We have perhaps, in this respect, the results of the principle which was deliberately followed by the late Principal Librarian, Mr. Winter Jones, in accordance with which he favoured devotion to library routine rather than to special studies in the officers of the Printed Book Department—of course with some striking exceptions—and did not ascribe sufficient importance or allow sufficient play to the latter.

It was agreed to adjourn the discussion upon the paper until the next Monthly Meeting.

Mr. Dickinson, of West Bromwich, having written to say that his Library Committee wished to subscribe to the Association on behalf of the library, a discussion arose as to the propriety of passing a new bye-law to cover such cases.—Mr. E. B. Nicholson proposed: "That every institution desiring to join the Association be permitted to nominate one representative for each half-guinea subscribed, but be entitled to only one set of the publications of the Association; and that every such institution may compound in perpetuity for the annual subscription due in respect of each of its representatives by payment of a sum of fifteen guineas."—The further consideration of the question was postponed, and the Meeting adjourned.

LIBRARY NOTES.

AYR.—A large meeting of householders, convened by the Provost at the request of ten ratepayers, was held in the Town Hall on the 2nd of February to consider, the advisability of adopting the Free Libraries Act in the burgh. Rev. Mr. M'Crie moved that the provisions of the Act be adopted. This was seconded by Mr. W. C. Gray, carpet manufacturer, and supported by the Rev. Mr. Copland. Mr. Hugh Bryan, clerk, proposed the previous question, which was seconded by Mr. John Baxter, grocer, and supported by Mr. A. Morgan, bookseller. On a show of hands being taken, the amendment was carried by an overwhelming majority, about three-fourths of the entire audience supporting it. The meeting was an exceedingly stormy one, those who spoke in favour of the Act being received with strong expressions of disapprobation.

CAMBRIDGE.—The plan adopted by the Committee at Doncaster (*see* MONTHLY NOTES, vol. 3, p. 2), has been carried out on a larger scale at Cambridge. A circular, of which a copy is appended, has

been left at every house in the borough in order to inform every householder what the Public Free Library was, what it contained, and who could avail themselves of it. It was said that although the Library had been in existence a quarter of a century, yet there were many inhabitants who had no knowledge of it, and many others a very erroneous notion as to its provisions. As a consequence many persons have become borrowers for the first time, and many more have used the reading-rooms.

CAMBRIDGE PUBLIC FREE LIBRARY.

The Library Committee appointed by the Corporation are desirous that the inhabitants should know—

That every inhabitant of the Municipal Borough, over 14 years of age, has the right to use the Reference Library, Reading-room, and Lending Library, subject to the Rules and Regulations.

That the Reading-room and Reference Library are open daily from 10 A.M. till 9.30 P.M., and the Lending Library from 11 till 2 and from 6 till 9.

That any number of persons in one household have the right to borrow books from the Lending Library, but each person must first obtain a voucher signed by a Ratepayer (whose name appears in the Burgess List) and a Borrower's Ticket. Borrowers can use their tickets for one year and then have them renewed.

Reference Library.—The books in this Department have to be read or consulted in the Reading-room. It contains nearly 7,000 volumes, and comprises Dictionaries of many languages and of many special subjects: Encyclopædias, Directories of London and of about thirty English Counties; Atlases, Railway and other guides, many other works of general reference, together with a special collection of works relating to Cambridge, a Dramatic Library, a Shakespeare Memorial Library, and a selection of over 900 volumes in the Reading-room that can be taken from the shelves (not out of the Reading-room) and used at pleasure.

The Reading-room is largely supplied with the daily and weekly London and Provincial Newspapers, and a varied selection of the best periodical literature of the day. Female readers have a right to the use of the room.

The Lending Library contains nearly 16,000 volumes, including works in all departments of literature, and adapted to all ages and to every class of readers. New books by the best authors are constantly being added to the Library. Books borrowed can be kept 14 days.

The Juvenile Lending Library is for the use of Borrowers over 8 and under 14 years of age. The books, 700 in number, are specially selected for their use, and well adapted to interest and amuse the young members of a family.

BARNWELL BRANCH, EAST ROAD. (Open daily from 11 till 3 and 5 till 10.)—This Branch Library is in connection with the Central Library, and comprises a Reading-room and Lending Library.

The Reading-room is supplied with daily and weekly Newspapers, Magazines, and a small Reference Library.

There are 3,000 volumes in the Lending Library, and a selection of books for the use of juvenile readers. Borrowers have also the privilege of transferring their tickets to the Central Lending Library, or of borrowing such books as are not in the Barnwell Branch.

Catalogues of the Books are published and may be had at the Library. Copies of the Rules and the Borrowers' vouchers may be had free upon application to the Librarian.

By order, J. PINK, *Librarian.*

Public Free Library, Guildhall, *October*, 1881.

The Town Council have referred it to a mixed committee to determine as to the best plan for extending the Library premises.

HALIFAX.—Mr. J. R. Welch, late Sub-Librarian of the South Shields Public Library, has been appointed Librarian of the Public Library, Halifax.

JAPAN.—The free library at Tokio, the capital of Japan, founded in 1873, contained, seven years later, 63,840 volumes of Chinese and Japanese works, 5,162 English books, 6,547 Dutch, and about 2,000 volumes in other European languages. There is a large reading-room, admission is wholly free, and books are sometimes permitted to be borrowed. Another library is said to contain 143,000 volumes, including many ancient books and manuscripts; an entrance fee of about $\frac{1}{2}d.$ is charged here. Many of the leading towns throughout the country are also provided with free libraries. Lending libraries of native and Chinese literature have existed in Japan from very early times, but the government now provides students with foreign books.

LONDON: INNER TEMPLE.—The new wing of the Inner Temple Library was opened for use on February 11th. The additional accommodation consists of two large rooms on the same floor as the rest of the library.

OXFORD: BODLEIAN LIBRARY.—Our readers will have received with much pleasure the announcement that the Curators have selected Mr. E. B. Nicholson to succeed the late Mr. Coxe as Bodley's Librarian. We wish him all success and happiness on his return to Oxford. Reversing the precedent of his predecessor, Porson, who left the University for the London Institution, he will leave the London Institution for the University.

ST. ALBAN'S.—On Tuesday, the 24th January, a Free Public Library was opened in this town by Lord Lytton.

SWANSEA: FREE LIBRARY.—The Library Committee have recommended the Council to erect a new building, and it is proposed to petition the Treasury for a site, and for power to borrow £5,000 to defray the cost of building. A motion to discontinue the branch news-rooms was not carried.

TWICKENHAM.—The example of Richmond, in establishing a Free Public Library, has been already followed by the neighbouring parish of Kingston, and an energetic movement is now on foot to provide a similar institution for Twickenham. An enthusiastic meeting of the parishioners was held on Monday, the 23rd January, which had been called together for preliminary discussion as to the desirability of adopting the Free Public Libraries Acts. Several subscriptions, and donations of books were announced, and a resolution in favour of adopting the Acts was carried without dissent. The Local Board has received a requisition to take the votes of the ratepayers upon the question, and has decided to issue voting papers in preference to calling a public meeting.

WOLVERHAMPTON: FREE LIBRARY.—The *Evening Star* (Wolverhampton) of Jan. 26 contains a long account of the work carried on by the Free Library, and an appeal to those who can afford to

aid the Committee by subscriptions to do so. In September of last year a museum was opened in connection with the library, and lectures and classes have also been instituted. There are now 20,000 volumes in circulation.

We are very pleased to be able to quote the following words from the December number of the *Library Journal:* "The *Library Journal* is at last self-supporting, and the publisher feels gratified in being able to announce its continuation." The price remains unchanged (15*s.* post free to this country), and we hope our members will support the official organ of both Associations.

Dr. S. A. Green, formerly Acting Librarian of the Boston Public Library, has been elected Mayor of that city.

The *Library Journal* states that the Public Document Committee of the A. L. A. have prepared a bill for supplying State and certain other libraries with public documents. The new bill provides (1) that all State libraries shall receive a complete set; (2), that one library in each congressional district, and two libraries in each state shall also be designated by the representatives and senators respectively to receive all documents, except bills and resolves, and (3), that all libraries in the United States, of more than 100,000 vols., shall receive a like supply. A second bill orders the publication of a list of all documents issued from 1871–81, to be continued by a quarterly. It is reported that both bills have been approved of by several senators, and it is confidently hoped that they may be passed. Should this happen, perhaps some enlightened member of Parliament might endeavour to persuade our own Parliament to make some provision for the supply to Free Public Libraries in this country of documents printed at the public expense.

Mr. John E. Hodgson, R.A., has been appointed Librarian of the Royal Academy of Arts, in the place of our late member, Mr. S. A. Hart.

Mr. Richard Kippist, who for more than fifty years was Librarian to the Linnæan Society, died on December 14th, aged seventy-one. Mr. Kippist was not a member of our Association.

Dr. Karl Michelic, University Librarian at Vienna, died on December 1st, 1881, aged seventy-six years.

We are glad to learn that the interesting series of Descriptions of Old School and College Libraries, which has been appearing in *Notes and Queries* during the last two years, is to be continued. Mr. Sinker will shortly conclude his account of Trinity College Library, at Cambridge. The reprint of Mr. Thackeray's notes on Eton College Library is noticed on another page. Besides these two, the following Libraries have also been described in the same periodical, viz.: St. Paul's School (6th S. I. 1880, p. 449); Christ's Hospital (6th S. II. 1880, p. 101); Brasenose College, Oxford (6th S. II. 1880, p. 321); Codrington Library, at All

Souls' College, Oxford (6th S. II. 1880, p. 421); Balliol College, Oxford (6th S. III. 1881, p. 61); Queen's College, Oxford (6th S. IV. 1881, p. 441, &c.). These descriptions render a real service alike to librarians and to bibliographers.

There is a good description of the Beckford Library, now the property of the Duke of Hamilton, in *Clarke's Repertorium Bibliographicum*, 1819, p. 203. The approaching sale of this magnificent collection of books and manuscripts, coming so close upon the heels of the Sunderland sale, is causing great delight among purchasers and great dismay among dealers. Messrs. Sotheby will dispose of the Beckford Library in June, and the Hamilton Library will be sold later on. Mr. H. G. Bohn, in an interesting letter to the *Times* of Thursday, January 19, estimates the value of the Beckford Library at £50,000.

LIBRARY CATALOGUES AND REPORTS.

Dundee. Report of the Free Library Committee to the Town Council of Dundee. November, 1881. 8vo, pp. 22.

The gross return of books issued exceeds that of any previous year, and amounts to nearly a quarter of a million of volumes. In the Lending Department the issues were 182,931 volumes, or a daily average of 614. The Reference Library was open 310 days, during which 63,427 volumes were issued. This shows a decrease of 8,026 compared with the returns of the previous year, resulting from measures taken by the committee to restrict the admission of young lads, whose talking and misconduct had been found to lessen the number of the adult readers. At the yearly stock-taking 57 volumes were found to be missing during the year, but of these a large portion were lost and have been replaced by borrowers; 970 worn-out volumes, mostly novels, have been withdrawn from circulation, and replaced by 740 new volumes. Valuable gifts of books published within the year have again been received from the University Club and the Subscription Library, to the value in the aggregate of more than £300.

Hull Subscription Library. Report of the Committee to the 106th Annual General Meeting, Wednesday, Dec. 7th, 1881. *Hull.* 8vo, pp. iv., 46.

The number of subscribers during the past year is 513, and the total income £843 7*s.*, as compared with an expenditure of £874 12*s.* 7*d.* The expenditure includes interest upon loan shares, and the balance due to the bankers has been reduced from £145 5*s.* 2*d.* to £31 5*s.* 7*d.* The amount expended upon books, including magazines, during the year has been £214 19*s.* 2*d.* Lists of shareholders and of books added to the Library are appended to the report.

Preston. Third Annual Report of the Committee of the Free Public Library and Museum of the Borough of Preston, for the year ending Dec. 31, 1881. 8vo, pp. 15.

The number of volumes in stock is 9,737; of volumes issued during the past year, 88,605. The income for the year was £1,219, and the expenditure £915 6*s.* 1*d.* The report includes lists of donations.

South Shields. Report of the Public Library and Museum Committee for the four years ended October 21, 1881. 8vo, pp. 40. Price 2*d.*

Financial difficulties induced the committee to suspend the annual publication of reports. During the last twelve months, however, large additions have been

made to the Library. During the year the total in use have been 64,903. The income for the last year was £1,103 8*s.* 1*d.*; the expenditure, including interest and redemption of debt (£213 9*s.*), has left a balance of £16 5*s.* 2*d.* in the treasurer's hands. A supplementary catalogue of books added to the Circulating and Reference Libraries is appended.

Works Relating to Freemasonry, preserved in the Reference Department of the Wigan Free Public Library. Second edition, enlarged. By Bro. Henry Tennyson Folkard, Librarian. Privately printed. Wigan, 1882. 4to, pp. 32.

An alphabetical list of some 60 works and articles upon the subject, the earliest of which is extracted from the *Gentleman's Magazine* for 1737.

NOTICES OF BIBLIOGRAPHIES.

Books and Reading. By Noah Porter. LL.D. Enlarged and revised edition, with amended bibliography and additions, prepared, under the direction of President Porter, by James M. Hubbard, of the Boston Public Library. *New York*, 1881. La. 8vo, pp. xii.–434. Price 10*s.* 6*d.*

The appendix to the new edition of this well-known work contains a select list of books, brought down to the present time, by Mr. Hubbard.

Catalogue of Works, Papers, Reports, and Maps, on the Geology, Palæontology, Mineralogy, Mining and Metallurgy, &c., of the Australian Continent and Tasmania. Compiled by Robert Etheridge, jun., and Robert Logan Jack. *London:* Stanford, 1881. 8vo. Price 10*s.*

An alphabetical list, under authors' names, without any sort of index.

A Reading Diary of Modern Fiction, containing a Representative List of the Novels of the Nineteenth Century, preceded by suggestive remarks on Novels and Novel Reading. By F. Leypoldt. *New York*, 1881. Sm. 8vo, pp. 160. Price 1*s.*

The publisher of the *Library Journal* is well acquainted with the requirements of public libraries, and this little book will be found very useful. It contains a list of over one thousand novels (among which American fiction occupies a prominent place), presented in the form of a diary, with blank pages ruled for additions and memoranda.

Bibliografia Ariotesca; da Jac. Ferrazzi. *Bassano*, 1881. Sm. 8vo, pp. xii.–275. Price 4*s.* 6*d.*

The most complete bibliography of the Italian poet which has yet appeared.

American Newspaper Annual, containing a Catalogue of American Newspapers. By N. W. Ayer and Son. *Philadelphia*, 1882. 4to, pp. 736. Price 15*s.*

A good index to the very extensive literature of American newspapers.

Inventaire sommaire des MSS. des Bibliothèques de France dont les Catalogues n'ont pas été imprimés. Par U. Robert. *Paris*, 1881. Fasc. 1–2, 8vo, pp. 1–228.

The second part of this important work has just been issued. It finishes the list of the MSS. of the Bibliothèque de l'Arsenal at Paris, and includes an account of a great number of those belonging to provincial libraries.

Verzeichniss der Bücher, Landkarten, &c., welche vom Juli bis zum December, 1881, neu erschienen oder neu aufgelegt worden sind. Herausgegeben und verlegt von der J. C. Hinrichs'schen Buchhandlung in Leipzig. *Leipzig*, 1881. Sm. 8vo, pp. cix.–498. Price 4*s*.

It is greatly to be regretted that we do not possess for new English books some equivalent to this excellent half-yearly bibliography of German current literature.

Hinrich's Repertorium über die nach den halbjährlichen Verzeichnissen 1876–80 erschienenen Bücher, Landkarten, &c., bearbeitet von Eduard Baldamus, mit einem Sach-Register. *Leipzig:* J. C. Hinrichs'sche Buchhandlung, 1882. Sm. 8vo, pp. xvii.–854. Price £1.

This is a five-yearly index to the above work. The titles are very brief and in classified order.

Catalogue of Books, Periodicals, Prints, and Diagrams, suitable for District Lending Libraries, &c., as well as for Soldiers, Sailors, Schools, &c., prepared and issued by the Pure Literature Society, 11, Buckingham Street, Adelphi, W.C. *London*, December, 1881. 4to. 2*d*.

A list of books recommended, at prices ranging from 4*d*. to 10*s*., with an indication of the class of reader to whom each work may be specially suitable. Perhaps the list is somewhat wanting in literature of a robust tendency, but it is not without merit as a guide to works for the juvenile department of a free library. Books selected from this list (to the value of £5 to £10) for working men's institutions and similar bodies, are sold at half-price by the Society, upon the recommendation of a subscriber.

Bibliographie géologique et paléontologique de l'Italie; par les soins du Comité d'organisation du 2^{me} Congrès géologique internationale à Bologne. *Bologne:* N. Zanichelli, 1881. 8vo, pp. viii.–630. Price 10*s*.

This was to have been compiled by co-operation, but the undertaking broke down before it had been half accomplished, and Signor Alessandro Portis was requested by the president of the congress to complete the work, which he has done in a very thorough manner. There are over 6,550 titles, arranged in geographical order, with chronological and alphabetical indexes.

Bibliographie Céramique, Nomenclature analytique de toutes les Publications faites en Europe et en Orient sur les Arts et l'Industrie cèramiques depuis le xvi^{e} siècle, jusqu'à nos jours; par [Jules Fleury, dit] Champfleury. *Paris:* A. Quantin, 1881. 8vo, pp. xv.–352. Price 16*s*.

Classified under countries, with subdivisions of subjects; index of authors. Each of the foreign titles has a French translation, and there are a few notes.

Essai d'une Bibliographie de l'Histoire spèciale de la Peinture et de la Gravure en Hollande et en Belgique [1500–1875]; par J. F. van Someren. *Amsterdam:* F. Muller et Cie, 1882. 8vo, pp. ix.–207–ix., and four more not numbered.

A careful compilation. The titles (given in full) are arranged in classified order, with an index. The notes are all to the purpose, a matter not always observed in bibliographical works. The author is an assistant Librarian of the University Library of Amsterdam.

Scanderbeg (Georges Castriota); Essai de bibliographie raisonnée: Ouvrages sur Scanderbeg écrits en Langues Française, Anglaise, Allemande, Latine, Italienne, Espagnole, Portugaise, Suédoise et Grecque, et publiés depuis l'invention de l'imprimerie jusqu'à nos jours; par Georges T. Pétrovitch. (Petite Collection Bibliographique.) *Paris:* E. Leroux, 1881. Sm. 8vo, pp. xxix.–187. Price 15*s.*

A dainty little volume, which contains a great deal of very careful work. The titles are elaborately described and arranged in chronological order, with notes here and there. Tragedies, poems, and novels are mentioned, but Lord Beaconsfield's "Iskander" is not among them.

L'œuvre gravé des Van de Passe; décrit par D. Franken. *Amsterdam:* F. Muller et Cie, 1881. 8vo, pp. xl.–319.

The catalogue describes the engraved works of the father Crispin, his three sons and a daughter. Nearly all the family spent some time in this country, and executed portraits of English celebrities.

L'Art pendant la Guerre de 1870–71. Marius Vachon, Strasbourg, les musées, les bibliothèques et la cathédrale; inventaire des œuvres d'art détruites. *Paris:* A. Quantin, 1882. 8vo, pp. lii.–161.

The town library of Strasbourg and that of the Protestant seminary, both destroyed during the siege, were the richest in France after the Bibliothèque Nationale, and are stated to have contained 400,000 volumes. Nearly 5,000 of their incunabula (now perished) are here described. M. Vachon has already published notices of the libraries of the Louvre, Conseil d'Etat, and Cour des Comptes, burnt during the Commune, as well as of the Chateau de St. Cloud, which was also destroyed during the war; and another volume will be devoted to the former library of the Hôtel de Ville, the library of the Tuileries, &c.

Eton College Library. Reprinted from *Notes and Queries.* By the Rev. Francis St. John Thackeray. *Eton:* Williams and Sons, 1881. Sm. 4to, pp. vi.–100. Price 5*s.*

The library now contains upwards of 23,000 printed volumes, with 100 European and 222 Oriental MSS. The collection is largely composed of standard works of the 17th and 18th centuries, modern scholarship being poorly represented. The chief interest lies in the MSS., the Bibles and theology, the Caxtons, the incunabula, rare classical editions, and early English literature. Mr. Thackeray's description is drawn up with praiseworthy care and accuracy.

Our honorary member, Mr. W. F. Poole, of Chicago, is getting on rapidly with his new *Index to Periodical Literature.* It is now proposed to insert a quantity of additional matter, and about fifty of the chief reviews and magazines will be indexed down to January, 1882. The manuscript will be ready for press by the 1st of April.

The *Catalogue des Ouvrages Periodiques que reçoivent les principales bibliothèques de Belgique*, published by the Bureau de Traduction at the Ministère de l'Intérieur, has just been issued at Brussels (1 fr.). The Bureau will be shortly transferred to the Bibliothèque Royale, and the 900 serials which both institutions receive will be brought together in one apartment. The numerous deficiencies of the collection are also to be made good.

The January number of the Bulletin of the Library Company of Philadelphia contains a list, prepared by Mr. C. R. Hildeburn, of the issues of the press in Pennsylvania from 1685 to 1734.

In a recent catalogue of Signor L. Arrigoni occurs a copy of the *Opuscules philosophiques et littéraires* [publiés par MM. Suard et Bourlet de Vauxcelles], *Paris*, 1796, 8vo (200 fr.), bound in *human skin*, gilt edges, by the famous Derome; a piece of work for which he was paid 20 fr. in 1796, according to a contemporary note on the fly-leaf.

The *Prix Brunet* for 1882 is to be awarded for the best essay on the bibliography of Aristotle.

An extensive bibliography of the subject is contained in Dr. Karl Schmidt's *Jus Primae Noctis: eine geschichtliche Untersuchung* (*Freiburg:* Herder, 1881).

The *Diccionario general de Bibliografia Española* is now complete in seven volumes, including index.

Our honorary member, the Comte de Marsy, of the Bibliothèque de Compiègne, is preparing a bibliography of works on hunting, hawking, coursing, and "la chasse" generally, and would be glad to have a note of any special collections on these subjects which exist, either in public or private libraries, in Great Britain.

NOTICES OF BOOKS.

Reminiscences of Solomon Alex. Hart. R.A.; edited by Alexander Brodie. London, printed for private circulation, 1882. Sm. 8vo, pp. 144, photograph portrait.

These interesting recollections include a few respecting former librarians of the Academy. The writer speaks of his own labours in the same institution in these words:—"I entered upon my duties, determined to be not a duster of books, but to enlarge the usefulness of the Library. . . . I wished to make a selection worthy of a college of arts. . . . In this, I may say, I have been successful, and my catalogue is now considered as an authority, both at home and abroad." It should have been noted that the catalogue in question was compiled and edited by our member, Mr. H. R. Tedder.

Of English Literature in the Reign of Victoria, with a Glance at the Past. By Henry Morley. Tauchnitz edition, Vol. 2,000. Leipzig: B. Tauchnitz, 1881. Sm. 8vo, pp. xl.–xii.–416.

A fairly good handbook to recent English literature, and may be useful to librarians in choosing books. On p. 248 Prof. Morley tells the story of the stoppage of the *Reader* in 1867, mainly through an amazing blunder of Mr. F. J. Furnivall, who reviewed Johnson's preface to his English dictionary as a *new book*. Professor Morley himself has, however, shown an equal want of bibliographical knowledge on p. 256, where the "Reliques of Father Prout" are ascribed to Dr. Maginn instead of to Mahony! This is not a mere slip of the pen, as the error is continued over two pages.

The Biography and Typography of William Caxton, England's First Printer. By William Blades. Second edition. London: Trübner, 1882. 8vo, pp. xii.–387.

The value and interest of Mr. Blades' work upon Caxton are too well-known to need any commendation here. The present book is founded to a great extent upon his larger work, but is brought up to the present time, and includes all discoveries since made. The book is beautifully printed and illustrated, and is a marvel of cheapness. It should be in every library.

A Son of Belial. Autobiographical Sketches. By Nitram Tradleg. London: Trübner, 1882. 8vo, pp. viii.–250.

Apart from its intrinsic interest as a clever and truthful sketch of his intellectual development by a clever man, this book is of special interest to the librarian as a pseudonymous work. The pseudonym, indeed, is transparent enough, if so simple a device can be fairly called a pseudonym, and the name of "Bosphorus," and of the various well-known characters described under other pseudonyms, require no very clever Oedipus to deal with them. Some of the Manchester people, in fact, may find reason to complain that they are not more effectually masked. The book is well worth reading.

NOTES AND QUERIES.

INJURY TO BOOKS.—Is there any evidence to show whether colocynth, or corrosive sublimate, mixed with binders' paste for the purpose of destroying book pests, has an injurious effect upon the binding or paper?—C. W.

LOST BOOKS.—Under this title a communication appears in the February number of the *Bibliographer* from the pen of Mr. G. L. Gomme, who promises to put his "many notes together on this curious and important question." He quotes from the *Journal of Arch. Assoc.* xxiii., p. 136, an example of what he means: "Ingulphus, Bishop of Lisieux, who lived in the eleventh century, says that Edward the Confessor caused the fables of Æsop to be translated. Ingulphus informs us that Alfred had translated them from the Greek into Saxon in the ninth century." Mr. Gomme, I am given to understand, is a recognized authority upon early English history, so that his confirmation of the truly remarkable story of a "Greek Æsop" translated by King Alfred, is a very weighty one. This is all the more significant from the notorious fact that Sir Francis Palgrave, Wright, Hallam, and Freeman have held the opinion that the work attributed to Ingulphus was an undoubted forgery. Mr. Freeman goes so far as to say (*History*, iv., 600): "I need hardly, at this time of day, go about to disprove the genuineness of the so-called Ingulf." Since the editor of the *Bibliographer* remarks that Mr. Gomme's investigation into the history of lost books is a very good suggestion, he may be supposed to agree in this interesting discovery of the authenticity of Ingulphus; an achievement which is exceedingly creditable to English bibliography. As the reference to the *Journal of Arch. Association* is not correct, I have been unable to verify the above quotation, so that I am still in the dark as to the original exponent of the new theory of Ingulphus. —A PERPLEXED LIBRARIAN.

London: TRÜBNER & CO., Ludgate Hill.

Single Numbers, Threepence each. Annual Subscription, post free, 3s. 6d.

Vol. 3. No. 3.] [*March* 15, 1882.

MONTHLY NOTES

OF THE

Library Association

of the United Kingdom.

Contents:—Official Notices—March Monthly Meeting: Adjourned Discussion on Mr. Thomas's Paper, "Professor Dziatzko on the British Museum"—Library Notes—Catalogues and Reports—Notices of Bibliographies—Notes and Queries—Correspondence.

Four extra pages are issued with the present number of MONTHLY NOTES, *making Twenty altogether. Nevertheless, a good deal of interesting matter, which is already in type, must stand over for the next number.*

THE next Monthly Meeting of the Association will be held at the London Institution, Finsbury Circus, on Friday, April 7, 1882, at 8 p.m., when the adjourned debate on Mr. Ernest C. Thomas's Paper, entitled "Professor Dziatzko on the British Museum," will be taken. A Paper will also be read by Mr. Andrew Taylor, Treasurer of the Edinburgh Select Subscription Library, entitled "Present Day Limits to Public Subscription Libraries."

The following additional corrections should be made in the List of Members issued with the January number of MONTHLY NOTES:

Mr. Wynne E. Baxter should be described as a Life Member; Mr. W. H. Greenough, of Stockport, should be Mr. W. H. Greenhough; Mr. C. Wall should be described as a Member of the Free Library Committee, Wigan; Mr. Andrew Taylor is now Treasurer, and not President, of the Select Subscription Library, Edinburgh.

MARCH MONTHLY MEETING.

THE Sixth Monthly Meeting of the Fifth Year of the Association was held at the London Institution on Friday, March 3rd, at 8 p.m., Mr. CORNELIUS WALFORD, V.P., in the chair.

The minutes of the last Meeting having been read and confirmed, the following New Members were announced as having joined the Association: Rev. Henry Edward Maddock, M.A.,

Senior Fellow and Librarian of Clare College, Cambridge, reported by the Rev. S. S. Lewis, Local Secretary for Cambridge; and Mr. Councillor James Needham, Chairman of the Public Free Library Committee, Stockport, reported by Mr. W. H. Greenhough.

The following resolution was proposed and seconded by Mr. H. R. Tedder and Mr. Henry Stevens, and unanimously carried:—

"That this meeting offers its hearty congratulations and best wishes for a long and distinguished career to Mr. E. B. Nicholson, on the occasion of his recent election to the Librarianship of the Bodleian."

Mr. ALFRED COTGREAVE exhibited an ingenious contrivance which he has recently invented for the purpose of taking down books from upper shelves without the use of a ladder.

The Adjourned Debate on Mr. Ernest C. Thomas's Paper, entitled

PROFESSOR DZIATZKO ON THE BRITISH MUSEUM,

was then taken, when

Mr. THOMAS read a letter which he had received from Professor Dziatzko, who, after remarking that he looked forward with great interest to the proposed discussion of his Paper by his colleagues, continued: "One point into which I could not well enter in an article intended for the general reader, I should like to lay before you. Might not a considerable economy of labour be secured in the British Museum, as well as in other large institutions, if the public were required to fill up in duplicate the forms of application for books? The forms should be so prepared that the upper part should serve as the receipt, while the lower part should be the counterfoil. The two parts would be separated: the receipt would be returned to the reader on handing back his book, while the counterfoil would be retained by the officers, and dealt with as they now deal with the entries which they make themselves. The counterfoils, so long as the corresponding books remained in the readers' hands, would be kept in alphabetical order. On the books being returned, this would be noted on the corresponding counterfoils, and they might then be preserved in one long alphabetical series, or might be arranged according to press-marks, and thus important materials would be secured for the history of the use of individual books or of whole classes of books. The additional trouble thus imposed upon the reader, who might on the average have five additional titles to write per diem, would not be serious, while the relief to the administration would be considerable."

Mr. B. R. WHEATLEY asked, with regard to the suggestion contained in the letter just read, why the present single application for books could not be used as Prof. Dziatzko suggested.

Mr. H. R. TEDDER expressed regret that none of the officers of the British Museum were present. Prof. Dziatzko's paper was one of great importance and was full of friendly yet severe criticism. The Museum classification, though it must be admitted to be unscientific, was not very likely to be altered. It was all the more

important, therefore, that it should be known that it was not generally admitted to be an ideal classification. He agreed that a Subject Catalogue was very much wanted at the British Museum.

Mr. WELCH added his testimony to the need of a Subject Catalogue. It might be well to put the classified set of Museum slips into the hands of two assistants, who should be accessible to readers requiring information as to the books the Museum possessed upon particular subjects.

Mr. HENRY STEVENS said: I have read with much interest Prof. Dziatzko's paper in the *Preussische Jahrbücher* for Oct., 1881, on the Library of the British Museum and its Reading-room. The article on the whole strikes me as an exceedingly able and judicious one, and may, perhaps, be commended, in many respects, as the best hitherto written by a foreigner. The Professor, from his eminence as a German scholar, and position as Librarian of the University of Breslau, may be expected from his neutral standpoint to pronounce an intelligent verdict upon the great National Library of England. His opinions, therefore, are to be respected, his facts entertained, and his verdict received with tolerance. But all these need not prevent their being weighed and sifted with loyalty to the great Republic of Letters, to the protection of which they are justly entitled. But from whatever point of view they were uttered in Germany, it is manifestly fair, I think, to test them by the lights, habits, needs and experience of London. Gladly bestowing, therefore, much praise on the article as a whole, I venture to draw attention to some few of its many points in which the statements, comments and opinions of the learned Professor do not appear to me to be well-founded in fact. Some of these points are, I understand, considered by those most concerned in the administration of the national library to be vital, and hence no time should be lost in applying the antidote.

I am, I know, not a little out of place. I venture, however, on this indiscretion myself, instead of leaving the matter to those whom it more immediately concerns, first, because none of our colleagues from the library of the British Museum are present; and secondly, because, being myself also a foreigner like the Professor, I, an American, may perhaps be regarded a neutral witness as much as he, a German. I trust, therefore, to be acquitted both of personality and undue partiality. But for obvious reasons it is necessary, I am aware, to confine my remarks mainly to Mr. Thomas's abstract of, and comments on, the Professor's paper as read by him at the January meeting of the Library Association, and printed in the MONTHLY NOTES, Vol. 3, No. 2, for Feb., 1882. This abstract has gone forth to all the librarians of the country. The supposed shortcomings of the Reading-room, with those of the catalogues and the reference library therein, are treated as current evils. They will probably be so regarded unless it can be promptly pointed out that there were corresponding shortcomings in the learned Professor's information on which his statements were based and his opinions formed. Without further explanation or

apology, I venture to take issue with Professor Dziatzko in reference to the Library of the British Museum on the following points:

1. The Professor deplores the want of a strictly systematic arrangement of the books on the shelves, and intimates that the present Alphabetical Catalogue, though freely accessible to the public, is not a good and sufficient compensation for this serious defect. On the contrary, I am of opinion that a strictly systematic arrangement of the books on the shelves of the British Museum, according to the notions of "system" prevalent in the German University and other libraries of, say, one to three hundred thousand volumes or so, would be a deplorable sacrifice to scholasticism (long ago exploded in England), which no Alphabetical or Subject Catalogue could cure or compensate. The German systematic arrangement implies, in practice, free access to the alcoves or classes by a few learned or privileged readers, who have no good and comprehensive catalogue to run to as the readers have in London. They almost help themselves to what they can find, when their strictly systematic arrangements are not defeated by books lent, or carried off, or *lost* by being placed out of their proper class because attached inseparably to other books. In the British Museum with its four hundred and fifty readers a day, and its million and a quarter of old and new books from the earliest to the latest, from every nation and in every language; with its current "works in progress" from all parts of the world, costing nearly £5,000 a year, exclusive of binding and cataloguing; with its upwards of 3,000,000 of titles (including abundant cross-references), arranged in nearly 3,000 folio volumes of the Alphabetical Catalogue, freely accessible to every reader; with innumerable bibliographical helps at the reader's elbow, and with 20,000 selected books of reference surrounding him open to freedom of touch; the whole open nine hours a day in summer and eleven in winter; with above forty attendants to bring, carry, explain and guide; and, above all, with a Superintendent, able, learned, patient and question-proof, at his back; I say, with all these in the British Museum, the adoption of the German "strictly systematic" arrangement of the books on the shelves would probably result in "strictly systematic" confusion. Why, Gentlemen, were the contents of the library of the British Museum to be classified, the very class "Miscellaneous," that always defies classification, would exceed in bulk and importance the whole library of the University of Breslau. Therefore let it alone I pray, and let it grow in its natural proportions. No library in the world is better arranged for its purposes, and no library is more securely kept or more easily and abundantly used. It is universal in its gatherings, and liberality itself in its workings. The Museum arrangement, rough and ready as it is, suits English purposes, and should not be inconsiderately tampered with.

2. Professor Dziatzko "regards as an essential want the entire absence in the British Museum of a Subject Catalogue of the printed books," and maintains that "to supply this want is one of the most pressing duties of the administration." No one in this age of

indexes, I think, will deny the importance of a good Subject Catalogue. It unquestionably has its merits and its uses, but in a grand national library of the size and character of the British Museum it must always be subsidiary to a good and full Alphabetical Catalogue. Nor can the one be properly constructed until the other is finished. The difficulty in the way of an immediate preparation of a trustworthy Subject Catalogue of the library of the British Museum amounts, at present, to impossibility. It would require an enormous outlay of money, and a new staff of experts to proceed while the present staff of cataloguers is completing the Alphabetical Catalogue of the entire library, incorporating the numerous accessions of the past thirty years to date. The magnitude of the work is such as to preclude any one man's ability to shuffle the titles into subjects without referring to about every third book, and consuming valuable time; while if ten experts were to superintend the systematizing, probably many books would fall under as many subjects as there were experts sorting them. But when the great Alphabetical Catalogue is completed, all the side catalogues incorporated, with the accessions brought up to date, and the numerous long subject headings indexed, and the present staff of efficient and experienced cataloguers partially liberated; and, above all, when the Chancellor of the Exchequer has a spare £100,000 for such a Subject Catalogue, then, and not till then, may one expect Professor Dziatzko's bibliographical millennium to commence, when readers in the Museum will sit down before such a catalogue, and regard it as the royal road to study. Meanwhile let the present Alphabetical Catalogue be completed, and let us then see if, with all its as yet unappreciated conveniences, with the numerous aids in progress and in contemplation added, it do not substantially and in effect supersede the coming Subject Catalogue.

3. The Professor objects to the Museum's present Alphabetical Catalogue, and adds these extraordinary words: "To anyone who is merely in search of the works of a particular author, the catalogue will supply without difficulty adequate information. But it cannot be denied that the catalogue ceases to be a reliable guide as soon as we come to the titles of anonymous books or to collective works. Then it exhibits the defects which are peculiar to English bibliography generally, namely, the intrusion of 'subject standpoints' into the alphabetical arrangement, the unnecessary and aimless sacrifice of the principle of form to that of matter."

Surely, the learned Professor is hugely misinformed as to the character of the Museum Alphabetical Catalogue, or he is blinded by that pedantry of the schools which sacrifices common sense to the principles of form and shadow. He cannot have studied it, and hence he cannot have comprehended it. It is the growth of nearly half a century under fixed and well-digested rules. It is as comprehensive and democratic as the alphabet itself. It comprehends all men and things, mental and material, as a good catalogue should. It approaches almost near enough to the form of a dictionary to render it in many respects better than a Systematic Catalogue.

Wherein it falls short in special subjects, classed catalogues and bibliographical aids are provided. Its chief merits, I am disposed to contend, are the many "subject standpoints" or special headings "*intruded*" into the alphabet. These, as far as they go, amount to the best kind of Classed Catalogues, for they are special, and indicate what (and all of what) may be found in the Museum. For instance, under the heading BIBLES are arranged in chronological order, under alphabetical sub-headings of languages, all the Bibles and parts thereof in the library. No other collection is so large or so well catalogued. There are above 16,000 titles, filling 21 folio volumes, with an index volume. Liturgies in all languages and services fill 15 volumes, including the index. Other extensive headings are Catalogues in 9 volumes, England in 17, France in 18, Germany in 2, Great Britain in 7, Great Britain and Ireland in 16 volumes. Biography amounts to more than a Subject Catalogue: it amounts almost to the bibliography of every great personage.

To verify this statement one needs only to turn to the "headings" in the Museum much-abused Alphabetical Catalogue, Homer, Horace, Cicero, Suetonius, and all other classic authors, to Mahomet, Dante, Petrarch, Boccaccio, Shakespeare, Cervantes, Milton, Arouet de Voltaire, Goethe, Longfellow, Mrs. Stowe, and hundreds of other well-known authors, ancient, mediæval, and modern, to find a remarkably full bibliography of each, better far than in any other general catalogue in existence. When the King of Prussia was about to publish the "Life and Works of Frederick the Great," an application to Mr. Panizzi readily brought out the remarkable bibliography of the great Prussian, which proved a triumph for his Alphabetical Catalogue. He had only to transcribe the main titles and cross-references under FREDERICK, and again by aid of the numerous cross-references look out and copy the main titles of his editors, sub-editors, translators, critics, commentators, &c. &c., and the work was done. Another remarkable instance of the thoroughness of the Museum Catalogue was in the application by the late Emperor Napoleon to Mr. Panizzi for a complete transcript of the bibliography of CÆSAR. Almost every book and edition of and about Cæsar and his works was found under that single heading. A second triumph for Mr. Panizzi and the overloading cross-references and "subject standpoints" "intruded" into the Museum Alphabetical Catalogue! If any student desires to avail himself of bibliographical short cuts made to hand for his investigations, let him consult the Museum Catalogues under Luther, Colenso, Essays and Reviews, Jews, Jesuits, Benedictines, Franciscans, Freemasons, the several States of the American Union, Dictionaries, Encyclopædias, London, Paris, Rome, Rome (Church of), the names of the great discoverers and voyagers, such as Columbus, Vespucci, &c.; he will most likely find himself both anticipated and instructed by this "intrusion" of the thousands of "subject standpoints" which the Professor is pleased to call the "defects which are peculiar to English bibliography generally." When I add that nearly all these long headings or collections are

well indexed, I am repeating simply what every reader ought to know. It is true the Museum Alphabet does not reach all subjects, outside of persons and biography, nor does it meddle with books not in the library, but if any searcher desires to descend from details into particulars he is provided with the Royal Society's Catalogue of Scientific Papers, Poole's Index, and thousands of special bibliographical tools requiring only a moderate share of brains to make them available. "From weaknesses of this kind," adds the Professor, "modern French and German catalogues are generally free." There is nothing so difficult to teach as ignorance. When, therefore, English and American bibliographers turn their backs on the Museum Alphabetical, or the American Dictionary Catalogue, I shall believe that they are becoming proficients in the French and German systems, long left behind in this country.

4. The next "weakness" noticed by the learned Professor is the "intrusion" into the alphabet of the standpoint PERIODICAL PUBLICATIONS. He adds that they are collected under this heading "without any cross-reference under the distinguishing word of the particular title. The finding of the title sought is made still more difficult by the publications of learned societies and ephemerides being under separate heads."

The Professor must have lost his notes to give so much misinformation in so short a paragraph. It is true that the largest collection of periodical publications in the world, under whatever name issued—reviews, magazines, monthlies, weeklies, annuals, quarterlies, journals, Zeitschriften, &c. &c., in all languages, dates, countries, &c.—are collected in their main titles (which are bibliographically very full) under the single heading Periodical Publications, and arranged alphabetically under the names of the towns or cities where published, the said towns also arranged alphabetically. For instance, to find the *Quarterly Review* one has to look under Q under London. This subject, or standpoint, or heading, or class, Periodical Publications, placed in P in the alphabet, fills fifty folio volumes, thirty-eight in the alphabet of places and twelve of index. Every periodical is arranged in the grand alphabet as a cross-reference, under its proper name and place, referring the reader to Periodical Publications. In the index the whole of the titles in brief are arranged in one alphabet, each referring to the volume and page where is recorded the main title. Each title is therefore entered three times, so that he who reads may run to the catalogue and consult it readily. No catalogue of periodicals is so perfect as this, and no collection is so comprehensive. The Professor's criticism thus again falls to the ground through want of foundation in fact.

What has been said of the heading Periodical Publications may, *mutatis mutandis*, be also said of the heading ACADEMIES, where learned societies of all kinds, times, countries, and places are collected in their main titles, and arranged after the manner of the periodicals, in thirty-two volumes, with five volumes more of the index. Besides the index there is, in the general alphabet, a cross-

reference under the official or chartered name of the society. I know of no arrangement elsewhere comparable to this. Almost the same may be said of the heading EPHEMERIDES, arranged in eight volumes.

5. The proposed "printing of the Catalogues" is the next point on which the Professor seems to have been misinformed. He has evidently mixed up the Society of Arts' scheme of a Universal Catalogue with the actual printing going on of the accessions, parts of the MS. Catalogue, and of the English books prior to 1640. I will not follow him, but merely say that the first two of these Museum schemes for continuing the catalogue and reducing the bulk of it by printing, seems to be a step in the right direction, and giving satisfaction. The work is rapidly progressing, and its fruits will be apparent shortly. As to the matured, perfected and ordered scheme of publishing a complete catalogue of all English books in the library down to 1640, in three or four demy 8vo volumes, I can call to mind no projected bibliographical work of half so much importance. All America stands on tiptoe for it, and Canada, Australasia, and other English-speaking quarters of the world will give it welcome. The terminal point, 1640, is well chosen to cover the early printing, early English history and voyages, Bibles in all translations, Liturgies, and many other points that can better terminate at 1640 than at any other date, prior to the great avalanche of pamphlets in the time of the Long Parliament.

6. The Professor complains that the supply of "works in progress" and the newest foreign books to readers is occasionally defective, and in some cases is considerably behind time. There is no doubt some truth in this, if we say only occasionally, but less now than four or five years ago. The fault lies partly in the old system of permitting readers generally to use only completed volumes of works published in parts or numbers; partly in the fact that they cannot always be promptly passed and paid for (for no book can be used until paid for); and partly in the agents (I speak from personal experience). The Parliamentary grant for the purchase of books, exclusive of copyright and binding, is only £10,000 a year, which sum is generally exhausted in nine or ten months. This shows the activity of the purchase department, and the rapidity of accessions, cataloguing, binding and placing. Librarians who spend from £200 to £500 can hardly judge of the operation of laying out £10,000 a year, and disposing from day to day of the accessions. In this rapid labour it is not to be wondered at that occasionally stitches are dropped. The national library is still in a transition state, far above any other of its magnitude, but still far from faultless. But when the catalogues are completed to date, and the facilities for examining, passing, paying for, and cataloguing are increased, these faults will, of course, diminish. I have reason to believe that they are well known to the officers, and that great efforts are being made to remedy them as speedily as possible.

7. Of the revision of the "Reference Library" of 20,000 volumes

in the Reading-room and of its defects. Professor Dziatzko's remarks hereon are not all well founded. This original collection of reference books was brought together under the superintendence of Mr. Rye in 1857, when the first separate catalogue of it was printed. The collection was hastily made, and possessed at first many known and acknowledged faults. From time to time, and constantly, these faults were corrected by study and experience. By 1871 the changes had become so numerous that a new and revised catalogue was printed. From 1871 to the present time not a year has passed without many changes (say from 100 to 800 annually) and constant improvements, to the extent now of about one half the titles. Many unimportant, superseded, and less used books have given place to their betters, until at present this Reference Library is believed to be as perfect and comprehensive as more than twenty years of competent experience could make it. The capacity of the shelves for use by readers is limited to about 20,000 volumes. The officer who has the responsibility of this collection on his hands ought to know by this time that, by the law of progress, the perfection of to-day may be the incompleteness of to-morrow; hence the necessity of inserting new works of reference as they appear; which is constantly done.

To some of the Professor's particular objections general ones may be made. For instance, there is not room for the forty-volume edition of Goethe's works, so the five-volume Paris edition is used, the same one that is found in the reference library of the Bibliothèque Nationale of Paris. Nor is there room for the best editions of Ranke, Lessing, and other eminent German authors, but all these works are found in the catalogue and may be written for. De Vit's and Corradini's editions of Forcellini are both in the library, but both are still incomplete, and the substitution of Pauly's new edition of Volume 1 of his "Realencyklopädie" would render both editions in this catalogue incomplete. Keil's "Grammatici Latini" had been ordered before the Professor's paper was printed, and Reiferscheid's Suetonius is now, I understand, in the library, owing probably to the Professor's valuable suggestion. But as to the general deficiency of the library of the Museum in the extensive department of Classical Philology, especially that portion of it published within the last ten years, I understand that a pretty extensive comparison with Engelmann's "Bibliotheca Classica" of 1880 shows that the statement is not borne out in fact.

8. Of the supplemental helps and biographical tools recently added to the Reading-room, and described in Mr. Porter's preliminary printed list of them, Prof. Dziatzko thinks them (valuable as they are) an inadequate substitute for a Subject Catalogue. But from what I have already said, these helps, as supplemental to the grand Alphabetical Catalogue, not only give the national library of England a pre-eminence over all the large libraries for freedom and rapidity of research, but form the only existing stepping-stone to the compilation of a great international Subject Catalogue. The magnitude of such a work is almost beyond comprehension,

but I am not at all disposed to underrate its value when it can be completed. Meanwhile, let us wish Mr. Porter good speed in his undertaking, which is young yet, but healthy, and growing stronger every day. With these constant efforts both the Museum and the Reference Library should be credited; and let us not forget that, in the rapid progress of things in London, the printed catalogue of 1871 must not be quoted to-day as representing the present Reference Library in the Reading-room of the British Museum.

9. Of the new or supplemental Reading-room for newspapers, periodicals, &c., intended to be built, and the new select library of some 40,000 volumes brought together in the galleries of the Reading-room for use of readers by electric light, or after the rest of the library is closed, with a printed catalogue thereof. This newspaper reading-room is partly intended to relieve the great circular room. About one hundred volumes of newspapers, old and new, are called for daily, and being generally large volumes, will no doubt greatly relieve the pressure. It is not unlikely also that certain selected periodicals, translations, and other works in progress, in parts, will be available here immediately on their receipt, instead of waiting till volumes are completed and bound.

10. Of the Professor's new scheme for statistics and record, that each reader, in ordering books from the catalogue, should hand in duplicate slips or orders. Contrasted with Mr. Panizzi's Registers of thirty-five years' standing, this scheme strikes me as clumsy in comparison with the compact and methodical Registers long in use, which recorded every book sent to the Reading-room since 1845, the press-mark, the name of the reader, the name of the book, the date of delivery, the name of the attendant who brought it, and the date of the return of the book to the shelves. No safeguard so perfect as this.

11. The Professor's fling at the late Mr. Winter Jones and his devotion to routine falls short. Mr. Jones was by no means a man of mere routine, and always encouraged the prosecution of special studies among the members of his staff.

12. Note on the absence of the British Museum members of the Library Association since these discussions began. When one calls to mind how active and energetic has been the Principal Librarian in his endeavours to render the Museum open, useful, and used—especially the Reading-room and its facilities; how the Keeper of the Printed Books (who was long Superintendent of the Reading-room, and knows well its wants) endeavours, under all circumstances, to show that the service of the public in the Reading-room is the first care of himself and the numerous staff under him; how well the first Assistant Keeper of the Printed Books, one of whose charges is the keeping up and improving of the Reference Library bibliography, indexes, and other study-tools, has performed his duty, and how much he has of late improved these facilities; and how well the present learned and patient Superintendent of the Reading-room fills his responsible office: I say, when one sets all these, and knows how vital all their combined efforts are to the

complete success of our great national library, one cannot help thinking that their absence from our meetings is to justly avoid discussing their own efforts.

Finally, Gentlemen, what I leave unsaid, I respectfully leave to your discretion. The Library of the British Museum needs no defence. There it stands, the pride of England and the honour of civilization. It matters little what we say of it here, or what they say of it abroad; but, after these dozen rounds, I ought to endeavour to reach a point of impact, and venture, therefore, to ask you to vote on the following resolution, up to which I have been speaking :—

Resolved,—"That the objections in Professor Dziatzko's paper on the British Museum, as set forth in Mr. Thomas's excerpts and comments, chiefly on the shortcomings of the Reading-room, printed in the MONTHLY NOTES of the Library Association of the United Kingdom for February, 1882, are, the principal part of them, not well founded on fact."

The motion was seconded by Mr. WELCH.

Mr. E. C. THOMAS expressed his surprise that Mr. Stevens, who had been present at the reading of the paper, and who had then acquiesced in the propriety of printing it in the MONTHLY NOTES, should have come down to this meeting with a resolution which seemed to impeach the course that had been taken in publishing the paper. If the motion was to be persisted in, he should feel bound to oppose it on his own behalf, as well as on that of Professor Dziatzko. As he considered it desirable that members should have the same full opportunity of considering Mr. Stevens's remarks as had been afforded them in the case of the Professor's criticism, he hoped that some one would move an adjournment of the discussion.

After some conversation, this course was agreed to, and the discussion was further adjourned.

The meeting then terminated.

LIBRARY NOTES.

BIRMINGHAM.—The Free Libraries Committee have issued a "Preliminary List of Bibliography in the New Reference Library, Birmingham, 1881–2," (8vo, 16 pp.), and have asked those persons to whom the list is sent to suggest such additions as they think desirable. We have no doubt that the Committee would be still more gratified if the suggestions were accompanied by a gift of the suggested additions to the Library.

DEVONPORT FREE PUBLIC LIBRARY.—The formal opening of this Library took place on Monday, February 6th, by the Mayor and Corporation, in the presence of a large number of the townspeople. Amongst those present, and taking part in the proceedings, were the Lord of the Manor (Sir John St. Aubyn, Bart., M.P.), the Port Admiral, the Mayor of Plymouth (Mr. C. F. Burnard), Mr. R. C. Serpell (the originator of the Free Library at Plymouth), Professor F. E. Anthony (Chairman of the Plymouth School

Board), Mr. W. H. K. Wright (Public Librarian, Plymouth), and several members of the Plymouth Free Library Committee. The Institution is located in a building which was erected for, and has been for many years used as, a Mechanics' Institute. It is spacious and well adapted for its present requirements. On the ground floor a fine suite of rooms has been devoted to the News and Magazine Department, and on the upper floor the old lecture-hall has been turned into a Lending and Reference Library, combined with the usual accessories. The stock of books is at present small, consisting chiefly of the old Mechanics' Institute Library, with some slight accessions. This defect will, doubtless, soon be remedied, as Sir John St. Aubyn generously gave £100 for the purchase of books, at the opening meeting, an example which is being followed by some of the leading townsmen. The Librarian is Mr. T. Lakin. The Library Committee of the Town Council have had the assistance of Mr. Wright's knowledge and experience in connection with the Plymouth Library. The whole of the arrangements of the internal economy of the building have been carried out under the advice of Mr. Wright and the borough surveyor, Mr. Burns, and the result is eminently satisfactory. The Council have purchased the Mechanics' Institute building and contents, for a sum of £2,500.

DONCASTER.—In consequence of a letter recently addressed to a local paper by Mr. Ballinger, in which he asked for copies of the pamphlets published by the late Mr. William Sheardown on the history of the town, copies of forty-seven out of the fifty-one pamphlets published by Mr. Sheardown have been presented to the Library, and Mr. Ballinger hopes yet to secure the others. Several other local books have been presented since the letter appeared, and the collection of local literature is becoming very interesting.

EDINBURGH.—Since the failure of the recent Free Library agitation in Edinburgh, a scheme for establishing district subscription libraries at a low subscription, suggested as an alternative by Mr. Andrew Taylor, of Edinburgh, has not been in abeyance. The Morningside Athenæum has recently started with 300 members. It is on the model of the Philosophical Institution and the Literary Institute. Its home is the old United Presbyterian Church, vacated by the congregation in November last, which was obtained for £2,000. It is also proposed to establish a similar institution for Stockbridge.

LIVERPOOL.—At the Liverpool Public Library there is a regular fortnightly meeting of the staff on a Friday afternoon, when the Library is closed for cleaning purposes. At these meetings each member of the senior staff reads a paper, in turn, on some subject of literature or library management. Mr. Cowell reports that the plan has been attended with the best results. Each of the eight or nine who form the circle tries to contribute something to the discussion which generally follows the reading of the paper, and the meetings appear to prove very agreeable to everybody concerned.

On the 6th of March, Mr. Peter Cowell, Librarian of the Free

Public Library, Liverpool, delivered a lecture entitled "Gleanings from the Local Collection of Books and Drawings in the Liverpool Free Public Library."

LONDON: LAMBETH.—Mr. S. W. Kershaw, Librarian of Lambeth Palace Library, is engaged upon a history of the collection under his charge.

LONDON INSTITUTION.—Candidates for the vacant librarianship of the London Institution may be reminded that applications must be sent in before March 20th.

MANCHESTER.—The Campfield Lending Library, which was closed in 1877, when the unsafe condition of the building rendered it necessary to remove the Reference Library to King Street, will be re-opened, in the course of a week or two, in a new building erected at the corner of Liverpool Road.

NOTTINGHAM.—The Society of Friends have presented 40 volumes of works explanatory of their tenets to the Free Public Reference Library at Nottingham.

Mr. J. T. Radford, one of Mr. Briscoe's senior assistants at the Nottingham Free Public Library, has recently been appointed Sub-Librarian at the Mechanics' Institution of that town.

PLYMOUTH.—Mr. S. C. Hall, F.S.A., for so many years editor of the *Art Journal*, has intimated to Mr. W. H. K. Wright his intention to bequeath the major part of his valuable library to that institution, it being the most largely-used library in the county of Devon, of which Mr. Hall is a most enthusiastic son. We sincerely trust that Mr. Hall may long be spared to enjoy his books and to give delight to those who read his own works; but when the time comes when he must leave them, it will be a satisfaction to him to feel that he has conferred a great and lasting boon upon a large community. We commend Mr. Hall's example to others. The Plymouth Library was enriched some time since by the acquisition of the greater portion of the library of the late lamented Mr. J. K. Spender.

ROCHDALE.—The Circulating and Reference Library of the Equitable Pioneers' Society, Limited, contained, at the last stock-taking, a total of 15,035 volumes. The issues from the Central Circulating Library for the year were 45,317 volumes. There are seventeen branch reference libraries and one branch lending library.

TWICKENHAM.—The ratepayers of Twickenham decided, at the poll taken by means of voting papers, on the 25th of February, to adopt the Public Libraries Acts, by a majority of 676. The numbers were, for the adoption, 985; against, 309. Thus Kingston, Richmond, and Twickenham will be three examples, close to London, of the adoption of the Acts.

The new Free Libraries Bill, introduced by Messrs. Hopwood, Birley, Rathbone and Slagg, and ordered by the House of Commons to be printed February 10th, 1882, is based upon the Bill brought in by Sir John Lubbock during last session. Besides the

various alterations agreed to by Sir J. Lubbock last year upon the representation of different members of our Association, the chief novelties in the new Bill consist of the clause giving power to adopt the Act to the local authority of any borough or local board district, as well as to the ratepayers meeting as before, and of that which increases the limit of the rate to 2*d.* in the pound. In the same way the various vestries and district boards of the metropolis (with the exception of the City of London) are to have the power of adopting the Act. It may be added that the bill has been "blocked" by Mr. Warton and Mr. Yorke. The Mayor of Manchester has issued a circular, urging municipal authorities to petition the House of Commons in favour of the Bill.

The various libraries of Harvard University now contain 259,000 volumes and 216,000 pamphlets.

Mr. Enoch Pratt, of Baltimore (U.S.), has offered a million dollars for the endowment of a free library for that city, provided the local authorities will agree to vote 20,000 dollars yearly for its maintenance.

In the March number of *Macmillan's Magazine* appears an article on the Melbourne Public Library, written by Mr. H. Mortimer Franklyn. The writer simply repeats the well-known facts familiar to our members.

Mr. Ballinger writes to us to point out that Mr. Pink's plan of circulars as employed at Cambridge, although akin to that devised at Doncaster, differs in one or two important points. Mr. Ballinger sends not merely a circular calling attention to the advantages offered by the library, but also a voucher. At Doncaster, moreover, the circular is not a mere general notice to all whom it may concern, but is addressed to the head of the family in each house.

LIBRARY CATALOGUES AND REPORTS.

Catalogue of Ancient Manuscripts in the British Museum. Part I. Greek. Prepared by E. Maunde Thompson and G. F. Warner. London, 1881. Folio, pp. 25 and 20, autotype plates. Price £1.

In this new catalogue it is proposed to give a detailed account, with facsimiles, of Greek and Latin MSS., in order to illustrate the subject of palæography, generally of a date earlier than the ninth century.

Manchester. Catalogue of the Books in the Manchester Public Free Library. Reference Department. Index of Names and Subjects. Manchester, 1881. 8vo, pp. vi.–614.

This volume completes the catalogue of the Manchester Free Reference Library to the close of the year 1879, and forms an author and subject index to the two volumes previously issued, thus supplying a complete and convenient guide to the whole contents of the library. By the use of small but clear type ninety-eight lines are contained in each of the two columns on the page. The entries are compressed into one line, and the volume contains altogether over 121,000 entries. The work has occupied over two years in printing alone. Mr. Sutton is to be congratulated upon the completion of his laborious task, no less than upon the manner in which it has been performed.

The Birmingham Library. Annual Meeting. Report and Proceedings, January 25th, 1882. La. 8vo, pp. 8 and wrapper.

The Committee report that the affairs of the Library are in a satisfactory condition. The total amount of the Subscription List at the end of 1881 was £1,629 5*s.*, of which over £1,591 was actually received. The sum spent upon books, newspapers, and binding was £742 5*s.* 5*d.* The Committee announce that they have under consideration the crowded state of the Library and the need of increased accommodation.

Doncaster. Twelfth Annual Report of the Borough Free Library Committee. 1881. 8vo, pp. 10.

The issues for the year from the Lending Library were 50,364 volumes to 34,518 readers. Of these volumes 26,489 consisted of fiction, which is below rather than above the average of fiction issues in Free Public Libraries generally, although the Committee express their regret that the proportion is not less. The rate produces £371.

Manchester. Twenty-ninth Annual Report to the Council of the City of Manchester on the Working of the Public Free Libraries, 1880–81. 1881. 8vo, pp. 30.

The number of volumes issued has reached 971,337, of which 203,194 were issued at the Central Reference Library, and 768,143 at the branches. These numbers do not include the use of newspapers and periodicals. The average number of persons using all departments of the Libraries has been 7,797 per day. An increased use has been made of the Libraries on Sundays. The total number of volumes in the Libraries reached 155,385. The Report contains no information as to the income or expenditure of the Libraries.

Sheffield. Twenty-fifth Annual Report of the Committee of the Free Public Libraries and Museum. 1881. 8vo, pp. 19.

The Museum has absorbed a large proportion of the income from the rate, but for which additional branches might have been added. At present there are three branches. The total issues for the year were 355,982 volumes, the proportion of fiction being 62 per cent. in lending departments. The funds are reported to be in a healthy condition, but no balance-sheet is supplied.

Wolverhampton. Twelfth Annual Report of the Wolverhampton Free Library Committee. Oct. 31st, 1881. Folio, pp. 12.

The issues from the Lending Library during the year were 57,507 volumes—a decrease upon the previous year, partly due to the temporary withdrawal of books from circulation. The issues in the Reference Library were 5,479. The Committee regret that the product of the rate is inadequate to supply newspapers and magazines, or to provide the cost of repairs. The Report contains favourable accounts of the Museum and of the Evening Classes in connection with the Library. There are no financial details.

Victoria. Report of the Trustees of the Public Library, Museums, and National Gallery of Victoria, with the Reports of the Sectional Committees for 1880, and a Statement of Income and Expenditure for the financial year 1879–80. Melbourne, 1881. La. 8vo, pp. 77.

The library now contains 116,644 "books and pamphlets" (it is not stated whether the estimate is as to volumes or to works), showing an increase of 3,436; and the sum expended in 1880 for books and binding was £2,169 4*s.* 11*d.* . 5,877

volumes were lent to twenty-four towns, on the system explained at the Conference of Librarians by the late Sir Redmond Barry. The Library Committee contemplate the publication of a shelf-catalogue for public use, and the classified index to the catalogue is well advanced towards completion. As an indication of their policy in the selection of books, "the Committee propose to keep the supply in each department equal to the requirements of the day; and, in cases where such special knowledge is not available, they propose, from time to time, to obtain reports from experts on particular subjects."

NOTICES OF BIBLIOGRAPHIES.

The London Catalogue of Periodicals, Newspapers, and Transactions of Various Societies; with a list of Metropolitan Printing Societies and Clubs for 1882. Forty-first annual edition. London: Longmans, 1882. 8vo, pp. 16 and cover. Price 1s.

Considering the age of this periodical, it is nearly time to make it more complete and satisfactory. There are several obvious errors and omissions in the list of printing societies, and the Library Association fails to find a place among those societies which publish transactions.

The University Library: Papers contributed to the *Cambridge University Gazette*, 1869, by Henry Bradshaw, Librarian of the University. Cambridge: Macmillan and Bowes, 1881. 8vo, pp. 30 and one unnumbered. Price 1s.

No. 6 of the *Memoranda* on bibliographical and other subjects already published by our distinguished President. Mr. Bradshaw laments the dearth of materials for the history of the Cambridge University Library; all the documents which exist in the University Registry concerning the Library have been collected and arranged by Dr. Luard, who has printed a calendar of them. Mr. Bradshaw's brief record is a model of how library history ought to be written; the plain story of the rise and growth of the Library being told without unnecessary digressions and without the introduction of tedious lists of accessions.

Catalogue of Romances of Chivalry, Novels, Tales, Allegorical Romances, &c., from the Age of Homer to the Seventeenth Century, offered for sale by Bernard Quaritch. London, February, 1882. 8vo, pp. 612 to 784 and wrapper.

Apart from the fact of its containing a great number of valuable books, this catalogue is interesting on account of its excellent method of classification, which, with a number of subdivisions, consists of the following sections:—1. Literary History of Fiction; 2. Fables, Epilogues; 3. Ancient Greek and Roman Fictions; 4, Alexander Romances; 5. Romances of Chivalry; 6. German and Norse Romances; 7. Novels; 8. Allegorical Romances; 9. Grotesque Stories, Jest Books; 10. National Legends, Folk Tales; 11. Popular Ballads and Songs; 12. Heroic and Burlesque Epics, Romantic Poems; 13. Appendix, containing Chronicles of Chivalry, Marvellous Travels, &c. The catalogue contains the results of some remarkable discoveries connected with the literary genealogy of the romances of chivalry; many of the sections are provided with descriptive introductions; and there are, besides, a great number of interesting notes. From a literary point of view this is perhaps one of the most noteworthy catalogues which any bookseller has ever issued, and Mr. Quaritch is to be complimented on being able to command the services of the accomplished scholar and bibliographer who has compiled what is really an important contribution to the literary history of fiction.

Catalogue of Books published by Houghton Mifflin, and Co., Boston. The Riverside Press, Cambridge, 1882. 8vo, pp. 64 and cover.

This catalogue deserves a notice on account of the elegance of its "get up;" it is beautifully printed on toned paper, and includes woodcuts of the principal authors whose works it describes. Messrs. Houghton, Mifflin and Co. have one of the largest publishing establishments in America; our member, Mr. Henry Stevens, is their English agent.

Jahresberichte der Geschichtswissenschaft, im Auftrage der Historischen Gesellschaft zu Berlin; herausgegeben von Dr. F. Abraham, Dr. J. Hermann, Dr. Edm. Meyer. II. Jahrgang, 1879. Berlin: E. S. Mittler und Sohn, 1881. 8vo, pp. x., 134, 351, 295.

This is, to all intents and purposes, a yearly bibliography, with critical notices, of the historical literature of all countries, arranged geographically. It is carried out with remarkable carefulness and completeness; the only thing with which to find fault is the brevity of the titles of the books, &c., noticed. Librarians will read with much interest a chapter on Palæography by Prof. Dr. W. Wattenbach, and one of equal importance on Diplomatics by Prof. H. Bresslau.

Bibliographie Nationale. Dictionnaire des écrivains belges et catalogue de leurs publications, 1830–1880. 1re et 2e livraisons; A—Capitaine. Bruxelles: P. Weissenbruch, 1882. 8vo, pp. 192. Price 5*s*.

Anonymous books and publications of societies, &c., are also comprised in this important national work. Each title is transcribed at length, together with the number of pages and price of the publication. Sufficient biographical information is given to identify each author.

Recréations Bibliographiques. Par Loudolphe de Vermond. Paris: Dentu, 1882. Sm. 8vo, pp. 186. Price 2*s*. 6*d*.

A small treatise on homonymous bibliography, of no practical value. Its object is to show that a great number of Frenchmen, mostly contemporary, have had predecessors of the same name who have also written books, often of a very different tendency to those of the later owners of the name. Thus there was another Zola, at the end of the eighteenth century, who wrote a treatise on Predestination, and a history of Pelagianism; and the brilliant journalist, Alfred Assollant, had a homonym in the author of "Recherches sur la rate," 1801.

Almanach des traditions populaires. Première année, 1882. Par E. Rolland. Paris: Maisonneuve et Cie, 1882. Sm. 8vo, pp. 144. Price 4*s*.

Contains "adresses de folkloristes," and a bibliography for 1881.

Bibliographie des plaquettes romantiques. Par Ch. Nauroy. Paris: Charavay Frères, 1882. Sm. 8vo. Price 6*s*.

Only 250 copies printed.

Bibliographie des impressions microscopiques. Par Ch. Nauroy. Paris: Charavay Frères, 1882. Sm. 8vo, pp viii.–125. Price 6*s*.

Only 250 copies printed. The author claims to be the first in the field after a short sketch by M. Louis Mohr ("Miscellanées Bibl." 1878), and is therefore unacquainted with the essay on the subject by our member, Mr. W. E. A. Axon.

Livres perdus: essai bibliographique sur les livres devenus introuvables. Par Philomneste Junior [Gustave Brunet]. Bruxelles: Gay et Doucet, 1882. Sm. 8vo. Price 5*s*.

The volumes described by M. Brunet are not in every instance "lost books." Many of them belong to that class which booksellers delight in calling "almost unique." This is the second edition of a work which first appeared in 1873; it contains about 500 titles, with references and bibliographical notes.

Our cataloguing rules, as revised at the London meeting, have been translated into German in the February number of Petzholdt's *Anzeiger*.

The new part of the "Anecdota Oxoniensia" contains "The English Manuscripts of the Nicomachean Ethics described in relation to Bekker's Manuscripts and other sources, by J. A. Stewart."

Messrs. Houghton, Mifflin and Co., of Boston, have brought out a complete analytical index to the works of Nathaniel Hawthorne.

In the March number of the *Journal of Education* appears a list of over 300 historical novels and tales, grouped geographically and chronologically by Mr. H. Courthorpe Bowen. This is an attempt at what has been already done in a very complete manner by our member, Mr. Justin Winsor, in his Catalogue of Historical Fiction in the Boston Public Library.

It is proposed to include the formation of a complete collection of books relating to hygiene and the preservation of life generally, in connexion with the Hygienic and Life-saving Apparatus Exhibition, which will be opened at Berlin on the 15th of May next.

The fourth part of the second part of the Catalogue of the Latin Manuscripts of the Royal Library at Munich has lately been issued.

M. Olivier Barbier, Conservateur-Adjoint Honoraire of the Bibliothèque Nationale, died at Paris on the 5th February, aged 76 years. The late M. Olivier was part editor of the third edition of his father's "Dictionnaire des Ouvrages Anonymes."

Mr. William Andrews, Hon. Secretary of the Hull Literary Club, is preparing for the press a work which will include a history of typography from the fifteenth century to modern times.

The greater part of the valuable Oriental library of the late Count Noër (Prince Frederic C. C. A. Schleswig-Holstein-Augustenburg) has been left to the Cambridge University Library, the remainder having been bequeathed to the Bibliothèque Nationale. Count Noër resided many years in this country, and was for two years a student at Cambridge.

A notice appears in the *Revue Critique*, of February 20, of the late M. Charles Graux, the distinguished palæographer, who died at Paris on the 13th of January, 1882, aged 29 years.

M. Victor Chauvin is preparing a continuation and completion of Schnurrer's "Bibliotheca Arabica," the well-known Arabic bibliography which came out in 1811.

Students of palæography will do well to supply themselves with "Facsimili di antichi manoscritti per uso delle scuole di filologia neolatina; publicati da Ernesto Monaci," of which the first part can now be procured, price 12*s*.

In the *Intermédiaire* for the 10th of Jan., M. Maurice Tourneux asks the meaning of the term *bureau bibliopographique*. The word is not to be found in any dictionary, and although the etymology of *bibliopographique* would seem to hint at a bookseller's cataloguing desk, this is not the meaning of the object to which the designation has been attached by M. Edmond de Goncourt (*Maison d'un Artiste au XIX^e^ siècle*, *i.*, 312). Here the term was applied to a sort of *secrétaire*, which was among the effects of the Maréchal Duc de Duras, sold on the 23rd of December, 1789.

The excessively rare first edition of the "Boke of St. Albans of Dame Juliana Berners," printed at St. Albans by the anonymous schoolmaster printer in 1486, has recently been reproduced in facsimile by our member, Mr. William Blades, who discusses the typographical and other peculiarities of the work in an interesting introduction. The Littlecote copy (from which this facsimile was taken) was sold at Christie's, on March 8, to Mr. Quaritch, for six hundred guineas. This copy had two corners in facsimile as well as two whole leaves, and belonged to the late Mr. F. L. Popham. Another copy, quite perfect (with the exception of one corner), has recently been discovered in the Earl of Devon's library by Sir G. W. Dasent.

NOTES AND QUERIES.

Lost Books.—Mr. Gomme's reference to the *Journal of the Archæological Association* was quite correct, but the passage is misquoted in the *Bibliographer*. It should commence "*Freculphus*, Bishop of Lisieux," &c. This makes matters worse, however. It is scarcely necessary to verify the statement in Freculf, as his chronicle was written about the year 830, and to quote him about a fact in the life of Edward the Confessor, who reigned between 1043–66, is only pertinent as an instance of historical prophecy. Nor is the pseudo-Ingulf any better authority; but no one who knows anything of literary history believes in a Greek Æsop translated by King Alfred. Had Mr. Gomme wanted a good example of a lost book, instead of referring to incredible stories told by impossible witnesses, why did he not mention the well-known Handbook of Alfred, which actually did exist?—P. Q.

Before seeking how to become perplexed about my blunders, it would have been better if "A Perplexed Librarian" had avoided another "achievement creditable to English bibliography." He

clearly does not know the difference between the transactions of the Archæological *Institute* and those of the Archæological *Association*. If he had referred to the latter publication at the correct reference (xxiii., 136), as given in my letter to the *Bibliographer*, he would have found that a printer's error had made me say "Ingulphus" instead of "Freculphus." Mr. Planché is the authority I quoted. He uses the evidence of Freculphus upon the question of Edward the Confessor having translated Æsop, and refers to the statement of Ingulphus as to Alfred having translated it. No one doubts that Ingulphus is a late forgery, but even a forgery is useful in throwing light upon a genuine authority; and this is the spirit in which I accepted Mr. Planché's statement. I will now make an admission to "A Perplexed Librarian." I ought to have tested the accuracy of Mr. Planché, good authority as he is. He is wrong as to Freculphus, who lived, not in the eleventh, but in the ninth century. The fact is, however, Mr. Planché's paper is the famous one on the Bayeux tapestry; and, knowing this had been used by Freeman and the best authorities, I did not stay to test its accuracy on the point now in question; especially as the "truly remarkable story of a Greek Æsop," translated in early English times, does not depend wholly on the authority of the Chroniclers. In conclusion, may I ask how my blunder invalidates the value of the idea of registering lost books?—G. L. Gomme.

CORRESPONDENCE.

Extinguishing Lights in Public Libraries.

Sir,—The extinguishing of lights in public libraries is not only a source of annoyance to the officials, but is sometimes fraught with danger to frequenters of such institutions, and therefore ought to be checked as much as possible.

We have not escaped this annoyance in our new home. A short time ago an offender in this respect was detected. We were afraid that, as there was no bye-law dealing with such an offence, the offender would go unpunished. However, proceedings were taken against him on the charge of *extinguishing a public lamp*, and a conviction was obtained.

By giving publicity to this, library authorities may be guided in their endeavours to suppress these annoyances.

I am, &c.,

J. Potter Briscoe.

Free Public Library, University College, Nottingham.

P.S.—I will forward a printed "Caution" to any fellow-librarian who expresses a desire for one.

London: TRÜBNER & CO., Ludgate Hill.

Single Numbers, Threepence each. Annual Subscription, post free, 3s. 6d.

Vol. 3. No. 4.] [*April* 15, 1882.

MONTHLY NOTES

OF THE

Library Association

of the United Kingdom.

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THE next Monthly Meeting of the Association will be held at the London Institution, Finsbury Circus, on Friday, May 5th, 1882, at 8 p.m., when a Paper will be read by Mr. Andrew Taylor, Treasurer of the Edinburgh Select Subscription Library, entitled "Present Day Limits to Public Subscription Libraries."

The following letter has been received from the Bodleian Librarian, in reply to the congratulatory resolution passed at the March Monthly Meeting of the Association, on the occasion of his appointment:—

LONDON INSTITUTION, 19*th March*, 1882.

MY DEAR THOMAS,—I have received your letter informing me of the congratulations voted to me by the Library Association, at its last Monthly Meeting, and I beg you to convey to the Association, at its next Monthly Meeting, my sincere thanks and my assurance of the great pleasure which its resolution has given me.

Very truly yours,
EDWARD B. NICHOLSON.

The following correction should be made in the List of Members issued with the January number:—Count Balsani's address is now 11, Via dei Mille, Rome.

APRIL MONTHLY MEETING.

The seventh Monthly Meeting of the fifth year of the Association was held at the London Institution, on Thursday, April 6th, at 8 p.m., Mr. W. H. OVERALL in the chair.

The minutes of the last Meeting having been read and confirmed, the following New Member was announced as having joined the Association: Mr. Charles Vernon Kirby, Assistant in the Free Public Library, Leeds. The following gentlemen were proposed and seconded for election at the next Monthly Meeting: Mr. James Dauber, Mus.B., Wigan; Mr. J. P. Edmonds, 64, Bonaccord Street, Aberdeen.

It was announced that a letter had been received from Mr. E. B. Nicholson, acknowledging the resolution passed at the last Monthly Meeting. The letter will be found on another page.

The Adjourned Discussion on Mr. Ernest C. Thomas's Paper, entitled

PROFESSOR DZIATZKO ON THE BRITISH MUSEUM,

was then taken, and

Mr. THOMAS read a letter which he had received from Professor DZIATZKO, dated Breslau, April 2, as follows:

I beg you to submit the following answer to the address of Mr. Henry Stevens to my colleagues at the next meeting of the Library Association. I hope that it may be printed also in the next number of the NOTES as fully as the observations of Mr. Stevens.

Ad 1. Mr. Stevens controverts the view that I deplore the want of a strictly systematic arrangement of the books "on the shelves." I write on the contrary, at S. 360 of my article in the *Preussische Jahrbücher*:

". . . ich will mich nicht auf den alten Streit einlassen, ob für eine Bibliothek eine streng systematische oder eine auf praktische Rücksichten . . . gegründete Aufstellung der Bücher vorzuziehen sei. Unter Verhältnissen, wie sie das Brittische Museum bietet, . . . wird das dort eingeführte System der Bücheraufstellung sich als ausreichend erweisen." * Has Mr. Stevens himself read and understood my article?

Ad 2. Mr. Stevens is certainly quite right in saying that the first requirement for a library is an Alphabetical Catalogue, and I have never said anything else. On the other hand, it appeared to me, as well as to others (S. 370 f.), that the printing of the Alphabetical Catalogue, in whole or in part, is of less importance than the preparation of a Systematic Catalogue.

Ad 5. As to the plan of a printed Catalogue of English Literature to 1640, I have given the same account at S. 370 as Mr. Stevens has given at p. 32; and the further information contained in my Note 2 at that place was, as there stated, taken from an

* I leave these words in the original, as Professor Dziatzko, who writes, of course, in German, has not quoted my version of the passage, which ran: "He declines to go into the old controversy, whether, in arranging the books themselves, the preference is to be given to a strictly systematic distribution, or a distribution based upon merely practical considerations, such as those of space, and so on. In the case of such enormous libraries as that of the Museum, the system actually adopted at the Museum may prove sufficient." *May*, in this last sentence, should no doubt be *will*.—E. C. T.

article in the *Academy* for 1881 (vol. i., p. 280 f.), written by Mr. William E. A. Axon, and entitled "The Printed Catalogue of the *British Museum*." It is not I, therefore, who have confounded "the Society of Arts' scheme of a Universal Catalogue with the printing plans of the Museum," but, on the contrary, Mr. Stevens has carelessly read or misunderstood my remarks.

Note 6 contains nothing inconsistent with what I have said at S. 371 f. Not only the amounts of £10,000, and of £200—£500 for book-purchases should have been compared, but also the number of officials employed. I should like to ask, also, what German Libraries has Mr. Stevens in view? For, in the case of Breslau, I have expressly said, at S. 366, that the sum of 10,000 marks (equal to £500) is only *half* of the sum to be spent in books and binding.

Ad 7. My remarks upon the Reference Library rest, not only upon the printed Catalogue of 1871, but also upon my observations of 1878 (S. 372). That the particular instances quoted from the Catalogue of 1871 apply equally to the year 1878, and even to the present time, we learn from Mr. Stevens himself. That since 1878 the new administration has been improving the Reference Library I have not failed to point out (S. 372). It is singular that Mr. Stevens has not been led, by my remarks at S. 372, to inform himself more accurately as to the two editions of Pauly's "Real-Encyclopädie." Only the *first* volume of the old edition of 1837 was re-edited as being out of date, and appeared in two parts in 1864 and 1866. No continuation of this new edition has appeared—and was, moreover, not intended. And yet Mr. Stevens says (p. 33): "The substitution of Pauly's new edition of Volume 1 of his 'Real-Encyclopädie' would render both editions in this catalogue incomplete." He does not appear to be better informed as to Engelmann's "Bibliotheca Classica" of 1880, of which as yet only the first part has appeared, embracing the Greek authors.

Ad 8. What Mr. Stevens says as to the collection of bibliographical aids (which, while it deserves our best acknowledgments, does not replace a systematic catalogue) is disposed of by his own admissions in his second note.

Ad 9. The information supplied as to the plan of a Supplemental Reading-room does not refute, but confirms, my remark on S. 371.

Ad 10. In order to make the number of his notes more imposing, Mr. Stevens has taken up an idea which did not appear at all in my article in the *Preussische Jahrbücher*, but was only casually expressed in a letter to Mr. Ernest C. Thomas, and has treated it as an attack upon the Museum administration. I expressly declared the object of my suggestion to be the economy of labour in institutions generally, and have never doubted that the British Museum has long preserved, with great completeness, particulars as to the use of its books.

Ad 11. My cursory remark as to a supposed principle of Mr. Winter Jones's administration is, of course, not a matter for discussion.

As Note 12 is of the nature of a general observation, and, at all events, has no reference to any particular or general remarks in my article, the only essential point of difference remaining between Mr. Stevens and myself is, the construction of the Alphabetical Catalogue, which is discussed in Notes 3 and 4. Here I must, first of all, make clear a misunderstanding on the part of Mr. Stevens. When I described as defective (S. 362) the way in which works without particular authors are alphabetically entered in the Museum Catalogue, and adduced Periodical Publications as an illustration, I was dealing with the question, under what catch-word works such as "Geographisches Jahrbuch," "Zeitschrift für Völkerpsychologie," "Annales des Sciences Naturelles," &c., and also non-periodical works, such as Pauly's "Real-Encyclopädie," can best be arranged in an Alphabetical Catalogue, and can most surely be found by those persons—and it is only for such persons that an Alphabetical Catalogue is principally intended—who are already acquainted with the titles of such works in their current form. Now, it is my conviction that the French and German bibliographers are right in entering such works under the chief word of the title ("Jahrbuch," "Zeitschrift," "Annales," &c.); while the further arrangement of all works with similar names is regulated by the further indications contained in the title. In the same way, the works of different individual authors upon the same subject appear in different places in the Alphabetical Catalogues, according as the author is called White or Black, and so on; and authors of the same name are further arranged under their forenames and designations, without any regard to coherency of subject. And it is, of course, further desirable, in the case of names of well-known editors of periodical publications or collective works, such as J. C. Poggendorf, Benj. Silliman, Aug. Pauly, and so on, to supply references under their names. Such a principle seems to me to be anything rather than scholastic, but, in fact, to be theoretically correct, and at the same time pre-eminently practical. But at the British Museum periodical works are not catalogued according to their titles, but are collected in thirty-eight volumes, under the catchword "Periodical Publications," and therefore under a factitious subject catchword. Within this, again, they are arranged from another subject point of view—the name of the place of publication. A very happily chosen principle! Who amongst my English colleagues—to say nothing of the simple users of the Reading-room—would undertake to name with certainty the place of publication of even the smallest fraction of all the periodical literature of the past and present? Who can tell straight off that the *Zeitschrift für Ægyptische Sprache*, the organ of Lepsius in Berlin, is published at Leipzig; or that the *Rheinisches Museum für Philologie*, formerly the organ of the philologists of Bonn, appears at Frankfort-on-the-Maine? There can be no doubt that the thirty-eight volumes of Periodical Publications are *only* of use by means of the twelve index volumes. Can that, however, be called a safe guide which only by a circuitous route leads the reader to his destination—*i.e.* the

knowledge of the press-mark, and which itself to a certain extent requires the index as a guide? It was an error, which I regret, when I said (S. 362) that the periodical literature in the main catalogue is not entered under the distinguishing names. According to Mr. Stevens this is the case.* At all events, the reader only finds from these entries that the periodical he is seeking is in the library, while further particulars, and particularly the press-mark, must be sought elsewhere.

Another question, upon which I did not touch at all, has reference to what Mr. Stevens says in Note 3. When in a catalogue the titles are not only arranged alphabetically under authors' names, &c., but, in addition, fully or partially indicated under one or several subject headings, as is the case with several very recent American bibliographies, this is, so to speak, a work of supererogation on the part of the alphabetical catalogue. With regard to the subject headings selected, such a catalogue offered what we expect from a systematic catalogue. But these portions of the alphabetical catalogue become superfluous as soon as the library possesses a good classed catalogue of its contents. I do not, therefore, wish in the slightest degree to depreciate the triumph which the Museum catalogue has won by its "CAESAR" and "FREDERICK" collections, or others of its articles, but nevertheless I maintain that the Museum could have brought together the same and a still greater collection of works upon these subjects from a good systematic catalogue; and besides this, anyone who is occupied with Frederick, for example, would find in immediate connection with the literature about him also the literature of the immediately preceding and succeeding age, of Prussian history generally, and so on.

Of all, then, that Mr. Stevens has led into the field against me, very little turns out to be well founded: strictly speaking, only one point—in regard to the cross-references for periodical literature in the main catalogue. When again, at S. 360, I spoke of the number of volumes of the new Alphabetical Catalogue as 1,457, while Mr. Stevens (p. 28) calls them nearly 3,000, I relied upon the List of the Books of Reference of 1871, as I had no later authentic data. Mr. Axon also, in the *Academy* (1881), speaks of more than 2,000 volumes.† Even Mr. Stevens has shown too many weak places, and at pp. 28 and 32, proves himself to be so inadequately informed as to the condition of German libraries, that he would have done well very considerably to moderate the tone of his polemic.

I conclude with the expression of my conviction that no one who read my article in the *Preussische Jahrbücher*, without prejudice, can possibly retain the impression under which Mr. Stevens has

* According to my notes, I looked in vain in the main catalogue for the "Zeitschrift für Alterthumswissenschaft," and for the "Zeitschrift für romanische Philologie," under "Zeitschrift," but I may have been mistaken.

† I embrace this opportunity to correct another error upon S. 363. Contrary to the information supplied to me in London, that books are not sent to the British Museum for inspection, I learn from another quarter that this is the case.

attacked my few criticisms. I have repeatedly in such warm terms expressed my honest admiration of this magnificent institution. That when I wished to give my fellow-countrymen an insight into the management and administration of this, in many respects, unique institution, I also allowed myself the freedom of pointing out what appeared to me capable of improvement, ought not to be taken amiss. An institution founded and constructed from so high a standpoint must also be judged by the highest standard.

I am, &c.,

CARL DZIATZKO.

DR. SELIGMANN said that he had intended, not at all as a German, but as an honorary member of the Association, to offer a few remarks on the subject, which was now for the third time an order of the day. After Professor Dziatzko's elaborate answer to Mr. Stevens, he would confine himself to opposing Mr. Stevens's resolution. Professor Dziatzko's article was fair, and while he paid due respect to his colleagues at the British Museum he had expressed his convictions as a librarian and a scholar, and had never dreamt that anyone could take offence at what he had written. Mr. Stevens differed on very many points from Professor Dziatzko, and had subjected his paper to an elaborate criticism. To this none could object, but when Mr. Stevens came and asked the members to give him a verdict against Professor Dziatzko, he quite forgot that he was thus aiming at the root of the Association's existence. It had been formed to discuss library matters, and not to adopt resolutions which would virtually shut the mouths of the members. And if the resolution was adopted, did anyone suppose that the matter would rest there? Scientific and academic questions were not to be disposed of by such resolutions. It had not availed that Urban VIII., and his congregation of cardinals, monks, and mathematicians, had adopted a resolution condemning Galileo's idea of the rotation of the earth. To the present day, we still say with Galileo, 'E pur si muove.' If Professor Dziatzko's paper was voted to be based on false information, although the writer had informed himself on the spot with his own eyes, and without prejudice, that was the very way to make Professor Dziatzko's statements to be accepted as a dogma, not in Germany only, but elsewhere. Whether it was wise to write this particular article was another question. The speaker, if he might be permitted to speak of himself, had taken another course, and, although his views on the Museum were on record, he had always avoided saying anything of the Museum in public which he thought the officers would not like. The principle of the Association, however, was discussion, and so national an institution as the Museum necessarily came within the sphere of their discussions. Professor Dziatzko's standing as librarian and scholar, and his thoroughly friendly attitude to the Museum, undoubtedly gave him a claim to be heard, and he ought not to be put on his trial by such a resolution. It was true that many improvements had taken place since Prof. Dziatzko was here, and Mr.

Porter particularly was always very anxious to satisfy the requirements of the day. But if the authorities supposed that everything at the Museum was perfect, they were mistaken; the millennium of their work, independently of financial questions, had yet to come. Mr. Stevens had mentioned as a "triumph" of Sir Antonio Panizzi, that he had been able to bring out the full bibliography of Frederick the Great, but that was surely a triumph which every well-regulated library should achieve without any record. As the name of the great king had been mentioned, the speaker might mention an anecdote of him. One day he passed a house and saw a libel upon himself placed very high upon it, on which he said, "Please hang it a little lower, that everyone may read it." His example, however, was not followed everywhere. Mr. Stevens had claimed the merit of impartiality and neutrality, and that from a peculiar point of view, a national one. The speaker thought that they did not ask of what nation a man is so long as his views were thorough and conscientious. They inquired into the merits of Prof. Dizatzko's paper and Mr. Stevens's reply, and they easily discovered the true motives as well as the relations of the Professor and Mr. Stevens respectively to the Museum. One point he would correct in Mr. Stevens's criticism. He spoke of "privileged readers" in Germany. The speaker could assure them that in no country in the world, England included, were instruction and the aids to instruction afforded by libraries cheaper or more freely open to everyone than in Germany. They did object, indeed, to those persons who make reading-rooms their abode, for they had no other, who never repaid the nation by working for their own good, but who prevented others from working, and were a great nuisance. To such readers he was sure that Mr. Stevens would object. In conclusion, he hoped the motion would be withdrawn.

Mr. HARRISON thought that the resolution had better not be put. The frankness with which Professor Dziatzko had spoken should not be taken as an offence. He was glad this discussion had taken place, and thought that enough had been done by setting our views in answer to Professor Dziatzko in print in the MONTHLY NOTES.

Mr. WELCH thought there was some misunderstanding on the matter. The importance of it consisted in the appearance of the paper in MONTHLY NOTES, where it looked like criticism of the Association on the working of the Museum. We had never had any reflections on a particular library, and it was unfortunate that the paper had been printed. He thought that the resolution should be carried.

Mr. BRACE pointed out that the paper appearing in our organ had been seen by many persons who otherwise would not have seen it. Many of the statements made by the Professor were true when the paper was written, but were not true now. At the same time he should like to see the form of the resolution altered.

Mr. TEDDER again had to regret the absence of any representative of the British Museum, a fact which was the only noteworthy incident in these proceedings. Every member of our

Association was proud of the Museum, of its excellent management, and of its able and courteous officials; and this was the reason why we should be ready to discuss any observations, and more especially those of a distinguished foreigner, on that institution in an amicable and impartial manner. There were few libraries more closely approaching perfection than that of the British Museum, but then it had not yet reached the last and ideal stage of existence, and its most devoted champion would not venture to assert that it was incapable of improvement, nor had any bibliothecal Pangloss yet arisen to say that it was "la meilleure des bibliothèques possibles." The Museum had, however, found an excellent advocate in Mr. Stevens, whose knowledge of its history and working was equalled by few; and although his somewhat over-eloquent and ornate periods might neither instruct nor persuade his listeners, they could not fail to interest them. He repeated at great length some well-known facts which have never been denied, and the letter of Professor Dziatzko read this evening dealt very fully with all contested questions. Nothing could be more generous than Professor Dziatzko's just praise of our national library, and the few points on which he had made suggestions were not, in the speaker's opinion, dealt with at all by Mr. Stevens. These matters were: 1. The want of a subject-catalogue; 2. The late supply of current periodical literature (it seems this defect is felt, and will be remedied by the projected periodical-room); 3. The late supply of new, and especially foreign books; 4. The necessity of a revision of the reference-library. Professor Dziatzko deserved great credit for his important monograph and weighty professional remarks, and Mr. Thomas had done good service in bringing the critical portions of the paper before those members who are not acquainted with German—the historical and descriptive part being already familiar to them. In an occasional note in the *Pall Mall Gazette* of March 16 occur these words: "The paper of this foreign visitor shows such an appreciation of the value and defects of the Museum library that an abstract of his opinions should not be confined to the journal of a few specialists." The latter observation is not very flattering towards us, but the note shows what is thought of the matter by an outside critic. The paper had been very amply discussed, and it would be a very unfortunate conclusion to arrive at, if Mr. Stevens' resolution were carried. It would please nobody and irritate everyone else. Few could care to vote for it, and no one would wish to vote against it. The speaker sincerely hoped Mr. Stevens would see the propriety of withdrawing his resolution; otherwise he should feel bound to move the previous question.

Mr. DOUTHWAITE was ready to second the previous question, though he hoped it would not be necessary.

Mr. OVERALL pointed out that, in the original article, Professor Dziatzko was writing for his colleagues in Germany. The paper appeared to the speaker to be by no means unfriendly. Many of the defects indicated had already been corrected, and, to that extent, the paper fell to the ground. On the other hand, the Professor

highly complimented the Museum. We must all admit that a subject catalogue would be very desirable if it could be had.

Mr. THOMAS observed that the word "objections," which figured in the resolution, was not taken from Professor Dziatzko, and he must say that it was entirely owing to Mr. Stevens that the discussion had taken a somewhat polemical turn. The Professor's article was anything rather than the attack upon the Museum which it had been attempted to make it out. What was said of the catalogue was said in passing in the expository portion of the paper. The Professor's formal suggestions began only at the foot of page 11 of the translation. They were four in number, and the speaker did not see how they could be disposed of by the resolution. It should be remembered that, at all events, the first three of them were not criticisms of what the Museum professed to do already, but rather suggestions as to future progress, and no one, therefore, could fairly take offence at them. The responsibility for publishing the translation must be shared by every member present at the February meeting, including Mr. Stevens himself, for it was unanimously agreed, after hearing the paper, that it was proper to be published in MONTHLY NOTES. The speaker, indeed, did not think that the publication required any defence. The article had been already published in Germany, and he was unable to see that there could be a more appropriate subject for discussion by our Association than the views of a competent observer upon the aims and methods of our National Library.

Mr. STEVENS said that, although he by no means backed down from the chief statements in his speech, and, after hearing the Professor's reply and explanations, found nothing, or very little, to modify, he was ready, in deference to the feelings of some of his colleagues, to withdraw his resolution. At the same time he thought that, as an unfortunate impression had been produced by taking out only the critical portions of the paper, it was very desirable that the article should be published as a whole.

Motion accordingly withdrawn.

The meeting then adjourned.

LECTURES AT THE LIVERPOOL PUBLIC LIBRARY.

For a period of seventeen years the Free Library Committee of Liverpool have been accustomed to have delivered, during three months in the winter, a course of free popular lectures in the lecture-hall of the Brown Library and Museum. These lectures are largely intended to attract non-scientific people and the somewhat illiterate rather than the educated. The Liverpool Free Library, it must be premised, is established under a local Act, which, though differing very little from the general Act, contains, however, a section permitting the Committee to have lectures given, and, if necessary, to make a charge for admittance, provided that, in case any surplus remains after paying expenses, it goes to the credit of the library rate.

Notwithstanding this power given by the Act, the Committee have never exercised it, but have always given the lectures entirely free. In this course they have felt fully encouraged by the class of people who regularly attended them—a class unmistakably of mechanics and unskilled labourers, to whom the exaction of a payment for admittance, however small, would have proved a hindrance, if not a prohibition to their attendance. It will be admitted that there are many people who, through want of education, are unequal to the mental effort of sustained reading; but who are nevertheless of an inquiring disposition, and take great pleasure in seeing experiments of a useful and practical kind. To these the popular lecture is a great attraction; and even the inveterate novel reader is found to be allured by the announcement of an accompanying exhibition of diagrams to the lecture, or illustrations by means of the oxy-hydrogen light—or, in more popular phrase, the magic lantern. These lectures have grown so popular during the last few years, that the small lecture-hall of the Brown library, which did not hold when crowded more than 450 people, was frequently filled to overflowing long before the lecture began, so that numbers (computed at several hundreds at times) had to go away unable to gain admittance.

Under these circumstances, and with the full conviction that they were acting wisely and well, the Library Committee applied themselves to the task of improving the accommodation. In October, 1879, the extension of the old library, now known so well as the Picton Reading-room, in honour of Sir James A. Picton, who has been Chairman of the Institution some thirty years, was finished and opened. This room is circular, and has a diameter of one hundred feet. It was at one time contemplated to make the basement area beneath into an aquarium, and active steps were taken to carry out the idea; but second thoughts, often said to be best, decided the Committee in favour of a new lecture-hall. This has been carried out in a most able and successful manner by their architect, Mr. C. Sherlock; and on the 3rd of January of this present year it was opened by an inaugural lecture, delivered by Sir James Picton. The hall is circular, after the form of the room above, and is of corresponding diameter. It is without any obstruction of any kind in the way of pillars, the supports for the floor of the Picton reading-room above consisting of a number of iron girders, or immense brackets, so to speak, which spring from the wall and meet in the centre. Whether it is unique in construction it is difficult to say without greater inquiry; but it is certainly uncommon and ingenious. The whole of this lecture theatre, which is 28 feet in height in the centre, was excavated out of the solid rock. During its formation, as tier upon tier of roughly-hewn seats appeared, cut out of the same primitive material, it became strongly suggestive, in a small way, of the Colosseum at Rome, and many were the remarks to that effect. But, if it was faintly suggestive of the great Roman building and its world-famed games, it was strongly suggestive of a local place of amusement in days gone by devoted

to the popular English game of cock-fighting; for here were seen, when the excavations were commenced, the remains of what an advertisement in one of the earliest Liverpool newspapers refers to as the New Cock-pit near the Infirmary, "where a main of cocks will be fought between the gentlemen of Liverpool and Warrington for five pounds a battle and fifty pounds the odd one." Those who know the pile of buildings which stand in William Brown Street, devoted to literature, science and art, must say with truth that Liverpool is now carrying on a worthier game and waging a nobler battle than was conducted on the same site a hundred years ago. The success which has attended the opening of the new lecture-hall has been beyond all expectation, for while the average attendance during the whole course last year in the old lecture-hall was only 350, this year it has been 1,030; this number, it may be added, the hall will hold comfortably, but 1,500 can be accommodated without material inconvenience. To illustrate the general character of these lectures it will be enough to quote from the syllabus the titles, &c., of the first dozen, though many of the forty of which the course consisted were more calculated to appeal to the popular mind, as was shown by the attendance of above 1,700 people at each of the lectures on Bach and Mendelssohn, which were illustrated by vocal and instrumental music.

"Our Municipal Institutions: Their Past and Future," by Sir James A. Picton, J.P., F.S.A.—"Animal Defences," with Illustrative Drawings, by Rev. H. H. Higgins, M.A.—"Universities, Old and New," by Mr. G. H. Rendall, M.A., Principal of University College, Liverpool.—"The Basque Provinces of Spain: Their History, Institutions, and Laws," by Mr. Clements R. Markham, C.B., F.R.S., Secretary of the Royal Geographical Society.—"The Practical Application of some of Faraday's Discoveries," illustrated by Experiments, by Dr. Oliver J. Lodge, Professor of Physics and Mathematics, University College, Liverpool.—"Elocution," illustrated by Recitals and Readings, by Mr. Henry Vandenhoff.—"Sketches of the Public and Private Character of Edmund Burke," by Mr. J. MacCunn, M.A., Professor of Logic, Political Economy, &c., University College, Liverpool.—"Our Iron-clad Fleet and its Guns," illustrated by the Oxy-hydrogen Light, by Captain Edward Stubbs, R.N.—"Chemical Force," with Experiments, by Mr. E. Davies, F.C.S., F.I.C.—"Elocution, Gesture, &c.," illustrated by Recitals and Readings, by Mr. Henry Vandenhoff.—"John Howard, the Prison Philanthropist," by Rev. J. Burbidge.—"On the History of the Jews in Spain and Portugal: Their Persecution and Expulsion," by Rev. William Stern, Ph.D.

While so much is being done for the comparatively uneducated classes, it must not be supposed that nothing is done for those who are better educated, though it may be that, in many cases, their purses are no better filled. For the purpose of combining thoroughness with utility, a course of lectures, usually twelve, have been for some years given free in the Autumn in connection with the Cambridge University higher education scheme, but wholly at the expense of the Library Committee. There have been two consecutive courses on Political Economy, and two on English Literature; and several shorter courses, but not in connection with Cambridge, on Chemistry. At the end of each course on Political Economy and English Literature an examination

followed, conducted by the University, for the benefit of those students who chose to have such a test applied to their work and studies, and who were ambitious to receive the certificate of proficiency which was awarded to those who were successful in getting the requisite number of marks. The number of students who thus entered, both male and female, and the marks which a very large percentage of them gained, have been equally gratifying, if not more so, than the success of the popular lectures. At present, the Public Free Libraries Act does not empower Library Committees to pay for lectures out of the Library rate; but the results at Liverpool are conclusively such as to make it an important consideration how far Library Committees should have the power, in any future amended Bill, to work in this direction for the common weal, should they choose to do so; and it is to be hoped that the clause proposed by Sir James Picton to this effect in the new Free Libraries Bill drafted at Manchester, coupled with the power to make a small charge if necessary, will receive the approval of the Legislature. P. C.

LIBRARY NOTES.

ASHTON.—The formal opening of the new Free Public Library took place on Saturday, March 25. The opening ceremony was performed by the Mayoress, Mrs. Andrew, who is the niece of the late Mr. George Heginbottom, to whom the establishment of the Library is largely due, Mr. Heginbottom having left a sum of £500, which was to go to the Mechanics' Institution, if a Free Library was not founded in five years. The collection of books dedicated to the public includes over 2,000 volumes, purchased with this bequest, and 1,000 volumes presented by Mr. Hugh Mason, M.P., the rest being presented by private persons and societies in the neighbourhood. The Library opened with 3,900 volumes, which are to be used, at present, only upon the premises. After the Library had been declared open, a public meeting was held in the large assembly room, at which addresses were delivered by the Mayor, Mr. Councillor Parry, Chairman of the Free Library Committee, Rev. Thomas Green, Mr. Alderman Heginbottom, the Rev. J. D. Kelly, &c., &c. The Librarian is Mr. Naylor.

CAMBRIDGE.—In a report of the Library Syndicate of the University of Cambridge, dated March 1, 1882, the following recommendations are made to the Senate:—1. That a sum of £3,500 instead of £3,000 be annually contributed from the University Chest towards the maintenance of the Library; 2. That the debt on the general fund of the Library, amounting to £1,181 4*s.* 2*d.*, be discharged from the University Chest by instalments; 3. That certain increases be made in the rates of increase in the salaries of the library assistants; 4. That the Library be open six hours on Saturday instead of four hours only, as heretofore. In the discussion on the report, which took place on March 14 (see *Cambridge University Reporter*, March 21), the only point touched upon was the

question of keeping open the Library two extra hours weekly, and the consequent hardship to the staff.

CARDIFF.—The new building, which is intended to accommodate the Free Library, Museum, and Science and Art Schools, will be opened on the 1st of June with an imposing ceremony. The building has cost about £12,000, and is admirably arranged for its purpose. The late Mr. W. Menelaus has presented £10,000 worth of pictures, to "form an Art Gallery, or at least to commence one." Over 1,000 volumes of books have just been presented by a retired county court judge, Mr. Thomas Falconer, who resides in the neighbourhood.

CARLISLE.—Dr. Robert Elliott, the Medical Officer of Health for Carlisle, has called the attention of the local library authorities to the possibility of scarlet fever being spread by means of books lent to persons sick and convalescent of the disease. He suggests that by the aid of lists of the books circulated the course of the fever might be traced.

EDINBURGH.—LITERARY INSTITUTE.—At a meeting of the subscribers, held on the 29th of March, the directors proposed that a committee of the subscribers should be appointed to co-operate with the directors, in order to maintain and extend the work of the Institute. The Institute was started as a limited liability company, and many of the original shareholders have died or removed from the south side, so that the shares were now in comparatively few hands. There was a danger of the Institute not being kept up unless it were more largely supported. It was agreed to adopt the suggestion, and a committee of twenty-six appointed, including three ladies.

EDINBURGH.—PHILOSOPHICAL INSTITUTION.—The annual meeting of the members was held on the 28th March in the Library. The Directors reported a surplus of £83 18*s.* on the year's income of £2,159 7*s.* 5*d.*; 574 new books had been added to this Library, exclusive of 109 vols. purchased to replace worn out or missing volumes. The new catalogue contained a list of 24,000 volumes. Treasurer Harrison observed that during the whole 36 years of its existence the Institution had been carried on successfully upon the lines on which it was established. The Institution had offered to its members a news-room, a reading-room, a library, and a course of lectures by the best men to be found within the four seas, at a time when any one of these promises might have appeared rather too much to make in the whole subscription; yet the Institution had been carried on entirely through the guinea subscriptions of its members, and it had moreover saved upwards of £4,000 in money. He did not think that in Great Britain, or anywhere else, anything similar had been done, or done with anything like the same success. Mr. Gladstone was re-elected President of the Institution.

LIVERPOOL.—An interesting ceremony took place at the Free Public Library on Friday, the 31st March, in connection with the appointment of Mr. John Frowde as Librarian to the Free Library

about to be established in Barrow-in-Furness. Mr. Frowde has been an assistant at the Liverpool Free Public Library for eleven years, and, in token of the esteem and respect felt for him, his colleagues in the Institution met and presented him with a gold watch chain and a handsome illuminated address, this latter being the work of his junior colleague, Mr. J. H. Quinn. Mr. Cowell, in making the presentation, addressed a few well-chosen words of the general feeling of appreciation of the many and valuable qualities possessed by Mr. Frowde, to which the latter suitably replied.

LONDON.—BRITISH MUSEUM.—A notice has been issued by Mr. Bond, Principal Librarian, announcing that in the reading-room the electric light will be continued during the month of April, so that readers can remain till 8 p.m. From the 1st May to the 1st December the closing time will be 7 p.m., and during the remainder of the year 8 p.m. The galleries will be open to the public every day in the year, except Christmas Day and Good Friday.

LONDON.—LONDON INSTITUTION.—Mr. James Macdonald Horsburgh, M.A. Oxon, senior master of modern subjects at Radley College, has been chosen, out of 44 candidates, to succeed Mr. Nicholson as principal librarian and superintendent of the London Institution. Mr. Stanley Lane-Poole, B.A. Oxon, the Orientalist, stood next, and after him Mr. J. Y. W. MacAlister, librarian of the Leeds Library. No one over 40 years of age was allowed to compete, but these three gentlemen were all under 29.

PARIS.—It is announced from Paris that, in order to guard as far as possible against the danger of fire, the authorities of the Bibliothèque Nationale are about completely to isolate that building, with its valuable manuscripts and books, from the surrounding houses. The cost of this measure will be 3,200,000 francs. Many occupiers of houses in the Rue Vivienne and the Rue Colbert will be compelled in consequence to quit their residences in July next, when the work will be carried out.

READING.—The Free Public Library Committee have invited applications for the office of Librarian for the Free Public Library about to be established. Applications were to be sent to the town clerk by the 12th of April. We notice that the Committee limited the number of testimonials which might be sent to three, and that they invited the applicants to name their own salary.

Mr. Edward Edwards proposes to publish a second edition of his "Memoirs of Libraries," for subscribers only. It is to be in three volumes, and the price of each volume will be £1 12*s*. Much of the matter contained in the first edition will be omitted, especially the accounts of ancient libraries, and a good deal of merely documentary matter. The strictly narrative portions will be extended, and new chapters will be added. The whole will be thoroughly revised, and some new illustrations will be added. Mr. Edwards' prospectus contains a "Chronological Note of the Author's Chief

Labours and Writings (up to 1870, exclusive) on the History and Organisation of Libraries, Public and Private."

Mr. Cotgreave has now registered what he calls his "Long-Reacher," which was exhibited at our March Monthly Meeting. It is especially designed to save time and labour in taking down and replacing books upon high shelves in libraries and booksellers' shops, though it may be applied to many other purposes.

Mr. W. A. Cotton has published in his book on "Bromsgrove: Its History and Antiquities," a list of the books (100 vols. in number) in the Bromsgrove Church Library, which has been reprinted in full by the *Bibliographer*. To be useful, however, such lists should be more carefully prepared than that in question, which abounds in every conceivable fault of cataloguing. The books themselves are not of any special interest.

We have received from the compiler, Herr P. E. Richter, a List of the Additions to the Royal Public Library at Dresden, for 1881. It consists of an alphabetical part, with very full "systematic" indexes in twenty-six classes, and the whole is very carefully done.

The *Harvard University Bulletin* for January, besides University intelligence and the list of accessions to the Library, contains another instalment of Mr. Scudder's elaborate "Bibliography of Fossil Insects." The present instalment chiefly consists of a list of Mr. Scudder's own contributions to the subject.

The January *Bulletin of the Boston Public Library* contains an extensive list of additions to the various departments of the Library. The Bibliography of the Renaissance concludes with "Part IV.—Biography." A new and enlarged List of Indexes to Periodicals in the Library is also printed, and the number concludes with the first instalment of books and articles, &c., on copyright and kindred subjects to be found in the Library.

LIBRARY CATALOGUES AND REPORTS.

Catalogue of the Books in the Cheltenham Library. Fourth Edition. By Henry Basevi, *Colonel, Retired List.* Cheltenham, 1882. 8vo, pp. iv.–151.

A very neatly printed catalogue on the dictionary plan. Works of fiction have been excluded from the body of the catalogue and relegated to the appendix, a plan not without practical advantages in the case of a circulating library. The catalogue embraces over 11,000 volumes.

Leeds Public Library. Catalogue of the Contents of Section N, Poetry and Dramatic Literature. James Yates. Leeds, January, 1882. 8vo, pp. 58. Price 3*d*.

This catalogue includes 942 volumes. The contents of collected editions are set out, and the stores of the library exhibited under such main heads as "Ballads," "Drama," "Poems."

Leicester. The Tenth Annual Report of the Free Library Committee. Leicester, 1881. 8vo, pp. 32.

During the year ending April 9, 1881, the issues from the Reference Depart-

ment were 29,456, as compared with 17,831 in the previous year. In the Lending Department, on the other hand, the issues fell from 174,456 in the previous year to 158,346, a decrease for which the Committee are unable to account. The total number of volumes in the library is 20,193, exclusive of the local collection (527 volumes). The rate (one halfpenny) produced £777 4*s*. Besides various tables, &c., the report includes the additions to the Leicestershire Department for the year.

Liverpool. Twenty-ninth Annual Report of the Committee of the Free Public Library, Museum, and Walker Art Gallery of the City of Liverpool. Liverpool, 1882. 8vo, pp. 27.

The number of volumes issued in the Reference Library was 828,525, besides the constant use of about 200 volumes of works of reference, of the use of which no account is kept. The number of volumes added during the year was 2,372, making the total number of volumes in the Reference Library 74,830. In the Lending Libraries the total issues were 423,051 volumes, 322,973 consisting of Prose Fiction. With the Reference and Lending Departments there is a small decrease from last year's issues. The number of volumes in the Lending Libraries is now 43,979. The Lecture season was very successful. The Report affords no financial information.

Norwich. Annual Report of the Free Library Committee to the Town Council. Norwich [1882]. 8vo, pp. 11.

The issues in the Lending Department were 32,836, and the attendance at the Reading-room has been registered four times daily, the number being 45,206. The number of volumes in stock is 6,300. The rate produced £937 10*s*.; of the expenditure, £274 19*s*. 6*d*. was for interest and instalment of loan.

Plymouth. Fifth Report of the Free Public Library and Newsrooms Committee. Plymouth, 1882. 8vo, pp. 32.

The number of volumes in use in all departments was 162,048, being 9,803 less than in 1880. The decrease was principally in fiction and juvenile works. The Library now contains over 14,000 volumes and pamphlets. The amount received from the Corporation was £700. The Committee hope that the grant for the current year may be the full equivalent of a penny rate. The Report includes tables and library additions.

Rotherham. First Annual Report of the Committee of the Free Public Library. Rotherham, 1881. 8vo, pp. 12.

The issues for the year were 45,609, and the number of ticket-holders 2,810. The number of volumes in the Library is 2,862. A list of the year's additions is appended. There is no financial information.

Stoke-upon-Trent. Third Annual Report of the Public Free Library Committee, 1880–81. Stoke [1881]. 8vo, pp. 19.

The issues for the year ending November 6th, 1881, were 33,269, in the Lending Department, and 2,692 in the Reading-room. The number of volumes in the Library is 6,427, of which 1,043 are works of reference. The amount received from the overseers was £295 19*s*. 2*d*., and £123 10*s*. 6*d*. was received in subscriptions and donations.

Walsall. Twenty-third Annual Report of the Free Library Committee, 1880–81. Walsall, 1881. 8vo, pp. 15.

The issues show a considerable increase over the previous year, the total issues being, at the Chief Library, 63,443, and from the Bloxwich branch 7,611. The number of volumes in the Library is 11,135.

Wigan. Free Public Library. Fourth Annual Report of the Librarian. March 9th, 1882. Wigan, 1882. 8vo, pp. 25.

The year has been one of steady progress. The issues in the Lending Depart-

ment have been 58,746, in the Reference Department 6,160. The number of volumes in the Library is now 25,332. The attendance on Sundays in the News-room and Reference Department remains about the same. Lists of Societies and Transactions represented in the Library, and of the more important works in the Reference Department, are appended to the Report. There is no financial report.

Philadelphia. Fifty-ninth Annual Report of the Mercantile Library Company of Philadelphia. Philadelphia, 1882. 8vo, pp. 32.

This Library claims as "a marked peculiarity from the first that the book-cases have been kept open, and every member has had the privilege of going directly to the shelves to make his own selection of books for reading and study, an advantage which is enjoyed in no other large library in the world." The number of members and subscribers on 1 Jan., 1882, was 5,571. The number of volumes in the Library was 143,135, exclusive of 8,782 unbound pamphlets. The circulation for the year was 153,186, the number of visits to the rooms 348,426, of which 28,000 were upon Sundays. The year's income was $44,383.48. The Library has its own bindery.

NOTICES OF BIBLIOGRAPHIES.

The English Catalogue of Books for 1881, containing a complete list of all the books published in Great Britain and Ireland in the year 1881, with their sizes, prices, and publishers' names; also of the principal books published in the United States of America, with the addition of an Index to Subjects. London: Sampson Low, Marston, Searle and Rivington, 1882. 8vo, pp. 107. Price 5*s*.

This catalogue scarcely answers to the promise of its title-page, as it is only an index to the list of books which appears every fortnight in the *Publishers' Circular*. But as it is the only annual catalogue of English literature, we ought to be thankful for it, and wait hopefully for the good time when we shall be as well supplied as the Germans.

Trübner's Catalogue of Dictionaries and Grammars of the principal Languages and Dialects of the World. Second Edition, considerably enlarged and revised, with an Alphabetical Index [edited by Mr. Hiersemann]. London: Trübner and Co., 1882. 8vo, pp. viii.–170.

A book so useful to the librarian, philological student, and bookseller, should soon be out of print again; we will, therefore, make one or two small suggestions in view of a new edition. In the first place, the list of works on Greek and Latin is somewhat meagre; under the latter, one misses Corradini's edition of Forcellini, the great work of Freund, and the popular, although less important, works of Dr. Smith. Under English, the Dictionary of Americanisms of Bartlett only finds a place in the form of its obsolete second edition, 1859; a fourth and enlarged edition came out in 1877. Davies's Supplementary English Dictionary, 1881, is absent; and a supplementary part of 92 pages to Stratmann's Dictionary appeared in 1881, and is not mentioned. The excellent Magyar dictionary of Bizonfy is not to be found; this omission is all the more noteworthy from the fact that it is first dictionary of the English and Hungarian languages. Fabretti's "Corpus Inscriptionum Italicarum antiquioris aevi" is duly recorded under Etruscan, but the three supplements which have appeared are not noticed.

Chap-books of the Eighteenth Century, with Fac-similes, Notes, and Introduction. By John Ashton. London: Chatto and Windus, 1882. Sm. 8vo, pp. xvi.–486. Price 7s. 6d.

The eighteenth century was the golden age of Chap-books, and those who are interested in this literature will find Mr. Ashton's book one of considerable practical value. Its bibliographical usefulness is much increased by many woodcuts of title pages and a list of Chap-books issued from the chief factory of such publications.

Bibliographie général et raisonnée du droit Belge: relevé de toutes les publications juridiques parues depuis 1814 réunies, mises en ordre et annotées pour la rédaction des Pandectes Belges Par Edmond Picard et Ferdinand Larcier. Bruxelles: F. Larcier, 1882. Livr. I. La. 8vo, pp. xiii.–15–300. Price 5s.

This important legal bibliography will form a volume of 1,100 pages, and will be completed in three livraisons. The work is to be in three divisions; the first comprising works, articles in periodicals, collections, &c., under names of authors; the second containing anonymous publications, reports of commissions, &c. and the third consisting of an alphabetical index of subjects. The titles are given at length, with a few notes.

La curiosité littéraire et bibliographique: articles littéraires, extraits et analyses d'ouvrages curieux, notices de livres rares, anecdotes, etc. 2e série. Paris, 1882. Sm. 8vo, pp. 240. Price 10s.

Futile gossip; but unfortunately this manner of writing is not uncommon among Bibliographers.

Catalogus bibliothecae Danteae Dresdensis a Philalethe B. Rege Ioanne Saxoniae conditae auctae relictae. Edidit Julius Petzholdt. Lipsiae: in aedibus B. G. Teubneri, 1882. 8vo, pp. vi.–126. Price 6s.

The excellent metrical translation into German of Dante's Divina Commedia, published by the late King John of Saxony, under the pseudonym of Philalethes, is well known; this is a catalogue of the valuable Dante library left by the king, and which has been added to by his son, Duke George. The name of the compiler is a guarantee of the excellency of the catalogue, which is in classified order. The titles are given at length, with occasional notes in Latin.

Das antike Buchwesen in seinem Verhältniss zur Litteratur, mit Beiträgen zur Textgeschichte des Theokrit, Catull, Properz und anderer Autoren. Von Theodor Birt. Berlin: Hertz, 1882. 8vo, pp. viii.-518. Price 12s.

This is the most valuable contribution to bibliography proper which has appeared for many a day. It abounds in new and ingenious views, worked out with rare learning and laboriousness, and is full of interest to the bibliographer, the literary historian, and the classical scholar.

Biographisches Schriftsteller-Lexikon der Gegenwart, unter Mitwirkung namhafter Schriftsteller: die bekanntesten Zeit genossen auf dem Gebiet der Nationallitteratur aller Völker mit Angabe ihrer Werke. Von Fr. Bornmüller. Leipzig: Bibliogr. Institut, 1882. 8vo, pp. vi.–800. Price 7s. 6d.

This follows in the steps of the excellent "Dizionario degli scrittori contemporanei, da Angelo de Gubernatis, 1879." But why cannot each country publish a thoroughly trustworthy dictionary of its own living celebrities, instead of the dozens of different "Men of the Time," containing unsatisfactory accounts of the notable persons throughout the world?

Aarsberetninger og Meddelelser fra det Store Kongelige Bibliothek, udgivne af Chr. Bruun, Bibliothekar. III. Binds 7 Hefte. Kjobenhavn: Gyldendalske Boghandel, 1882. 8vo, pp. clx.–lxxiv., 177–208.

The part in Roman numerals contains statistical information for the financial year 1880–81, and that numbered in Arabic figures is the continuation of the catalogue of the manuscripts.

Verboden boeken, geschriften, couranten, enz. in de 18e eeuw.: eene bijdrage tot de geschiedenis der Haagsche censuur. Door A. J. Servaas van Rooijen. Aflef. I. Haarlem: de Graaff, 1882. 8vo, pp. 1–48. Price 3*s*.

A companion to Drujon's "Catalogue des ouvrages poursuivis, supprimés ou condamnés, 1814–77." It will be completed in six parts.

Mr. A. J. Frost's Report, for 1881, on the Library of the Society of Telegraph Engineers, contains a list of works on lightning, lightning-rods, &c., presented to the Library by Mr. G. J. Symons.

M. René Kerviler has published the first part of a bibliography of the periodical publications of Brittany, in the *Bibliophile Breton*. One chapter will be devoted to each of the five departments of the province; a sixth chapter will deal with works devoted to all or several of the departments. The bibliography is arranged chronologically, with ample notes.

Revue mensuelle du Bibliophile militaire is the title of a new Parisian review, which is distributed without charge to all military institutions and libraries.

A bibliographical notice is to be found, in a new edition of the *Discours de la méthode* of Descartes (Paris: Dupont), prepared by Professor Ludovic Carrau.

Herr Karl M. Kertbeny, author of "Handbuch Ungarischer Bibliographie," 1880, died at Budapest on January 23, aged 58 years.

The editor and publisher of the "Gesammt-Verlags-Katalog des Deutschen Buchhandels," Herr Adolf Russell, died at Münster on December 26. The Verlags-Katalog is not yet complete, but the remainder of the manuscript has been left in a state ready for the press.

The bibliography of Russian hagiology has been dealt with by Mr. Nikolai Barsukof, in a recent work, "*Istochniki Russkoi Agiografii*" (Sources of Russian Hagiography).

NOTES AND QUERIES.

A Reminiscence of the Liverpool Library.—The following is culled from the minute books of this library, and dated 13th of

August, 1799, some forty years after its foundation. The meeting of the committee at which this singular minute was inserted was attended by no less distinguished men than William Roscoe, Dr. Currie, and Dr. Rutter:—"This day, for the first time, the committee met at four o'clock in the afternoon, and, having transacted the necessary business of the library, they dined together at five o'clock, and spent the remainder of the day with harmonious pleasantry. Resolved unanimously, 'That the monthly committee meet henceforward on the second Tuesday in the month at three o'clock, and that they afterwards dine together; that dinner be on the table at four o'clock precisely, and that the bill be called at six o'clock, when such gentlemen as chuse may depart, and such as chuse may club again; that red port be the only wine allowed, and that if any gentleman prefer white wine he pay for it distinct from his share of the general shot; and that all the wine be brought up in the original bottles from the bin, and decanted in the club-room.'" These festive meetings of the committee were held at the Star and Garter Tavern, in Paradise-street.—A. W.

THOMLINSON LIBRARY, NEWCASTLE-UPON-TYNE (MONTHLY NOTES, Vol. iii., p. 8).—We have received from Mr. Haggerston a long and interesting account of this library, which we hope to print in full in an early number.—ED. M. N.

AUTHOR WANTED.—Who was the author of "The Perils of the Nation: An Appeal to the Legislation, the Clergy, and the Higher and Middle Classes. Seeley, London, 1844," "Remedies suggested for some of the Evils which constitute the Perils of the Nation. London, 1844"? I should feel greatly indebted for an answer.—H. W.

CORRESPONDENCE.

TRAINING OF LIBRARY ASSISTANTS.

SIR,—I believe the Library Association some two or three years ago recommended that the system of having boys apprenticed to Public Libraries should be adopted. I am desirous of ascertaining if, at that or any other time, they have laid down any rules or method for training such apprentices.

I have a son apprenticed to a library for five years, and am anxious to learn what is the proper system of training. It appears to me a very important matter, both in the interests of libraries and librarians, that some systematic training should be carried out. Any information you can give me on the subject will be esteemed a favour by,

Yours, &c.,
PATERFAMILIAS.

London: TRÜBNER & CO., Ludgate Hill.
Single Numbers, Threepence each. Annual Subscription, post free, 3s. 6d.

VOL. 3. NO. 5.] [*May* 15, 1882.

MONTHLY NOTES

OF THE

Library Association

of the United Kingdom.

BIBLIOTHECA · BODLEIANA

Contents:—Official Notices—May Monthly Meeting: Paper by Mr. Andrew Taylor, "Present-day Limits to Subscription Libraries"—"The Thomlinson Library," by W. J. Haggerston—Library Notes—Notices of Bibliographies —Catalogues and Reports—Notes and Queries.

THE next Monthly Meeting of the Association will be held at the London Institution, Finsbury Circus, on Friday, June 2nd, 1882, when a Paper will be read by Mr. Ernest C. Thomas, entitled "Library Statistics of a Europe."

The date of the Annual Meeting at Cambridge has been provisionally fixed for Tuesday, the 5th September, and following days.

MAY MONTHLY MEETING.

THE Eighth Monthly Meeting of the Fifth Year of the Association was held at the London Institution, on Friday, May 5th, at 8 p.m., Mr. B. R. WHEATLEY in the chair.

The minutes of the last meeting having been read and confirmed, Mr. JAMES DAUBER, Mus.B., of Wigan, was duly elected a member of the Association. The following gentleman was proposed and seconded for election at the next Monthly Meeting: Mr. William Buchanan, Registrar, 10, Carrington Street, Glasgow.

It was proposed by Mr. Ernest C. Thomas, seconded by Mr. Cornelius Walford, and carried unanimously, that Mr. Edward Edwards be elected an Honorary Member of the Association.

The Chairman then called upon the Secretary to read a Paper by Mr. ANDREW TAYLOR, Treasurer of the Edinburgh Select Subscription Library, entitled

PRESENT-DAY LIMITS TO PUBLIC SUBSCRIPTION LIBRARIES.

The past winter in Edinburgh has been a quiet one in reference to any discussion on the adoption of the Free Libraries Act. Random hits, reminding one of the late fierce battle, may have been

noticed once and again in the daily prints. But where are the trenchant leaders, the voluminous correspondence, and, above all, the army of sandwich-men perambulating our streets with their appeals to over-rated tax-payers, lately introduced to the Conference by Mr. Ralph Richardson? Where has the enthusiasm for public free libraries by voluntary subscriptions taken a tangible shape? Certainly not in Edinburgh, otherwise than in printer's ink. What more of the movement for opening up the Advocates' Library by the addition of a public reading-room? When the question was first mooted at the Edinburgh meeting of the Library Association, I posed as the advocate of existing institutions. But in truth, the balance-sheet over which I preside is not in such a state as to be cited as a triumphant testimony of the working of willinghood in this direction of voluntary effort. And I look in vain for similar evidence from the financial conditions of sister societies in the city. The Philosophical Institution appears to prosper, but it offers other attractions than its library. The question really is, apart from the utilisation of the Advocates' Library, Can libraries proper exist apart from public taxation? Of course, the Edinburgh Subscription, the Select Subscription, and the Mechanics' Libraries which were pointed out during the recent discussion, had solved the problem by living through most of the years of the present century. But are not all these founded on principles, though good enough in their day, now ready to wax old and vanish away? The practical experience of one of these institutions, mainly in its financial aspects, will best answer the question.

A tabular statement now lies before me, detailing the income and expenditure of the library with which I am connected, for the last

					Receipts.		Expenditure.		
Years.	Highest and Lowest Number of Members.	Shares Sold.	Struck Off.	Transferred.	Annual Payments, Fines, &c.	Entry Money and Catalogues.	Management of Library.	Property.	Books and Binding.
					£	£	£	£	£
1800 to 1810	23—106	136	41	41	—	36	105	—	252
1810 to 1820	105—123	60	40	81	650	200	192	190	471
1820 to 1830	133—235	155	40	57	964	355	585	78	891
1830 to 1840	368—595	328	63	366	1,005	416	605	58	1,001
1840 to 1850	593—582	41	18	492	3,894	464	1,778	626	1,832
1850 to 1860	605—440	17	—	394	3,204	130	1,697	74	1,559
1860 to 1870	281	30	—	131	2,378	83	1,499	31	952
1870 to 1880	—	—	—	—	2,087	33	1,405	45	671

eighty years. I note such of the facts as may be interesting to a general public. Established by twelve humble men, it has collected and spent fully £14,500 19*s.* for library purposes; and accumulated over 30,000 volumes. Its shelves illustrate the many changes in

publishing since 1800; from Murray's early magnificent cream-laid quartoes to Constable's Miscellany and Knight's Weekly Volume; from the first blue and yellows of the Edinburgh to Chambers's Journal, the Penny Magazine of the useful knowledge time to the early Cornhills, where it is gravely asked—How much of this stir of Brougham's time was useless knowledge? We have scarce black letters and valuable pamphlets. But I write as a treasurer, not as a bibliographer. Our annals stretch over three periods: one of gradual slow growth, another of unbounded prosperity, while the present can only be truthfully written about as one of decay. Up till the year 1820, the number of members varied from 30 to 123; during the next decade the numbers varied from 133 to 235. But at the epoch of the first Reform Bill, the time of the cry that the schoolmaster is abroad, the society gained a new life. From 1830 to 1840 its constituency averaged 500; while 328 shares were sold at the then entry fee of two guineas each. Fully £1,178 was spent in management and rent; while no less than £1,882 was expended on books and binding. The catalogue of the 15,000 volumes then accumulated was published at an expense of £250. At the beginning of the next ten years, the number of members culminated at 650. Since then it has gradually decreased to about 300, with, of course, a corresponding reduction in the income and expenditure. While during the last ten years something like £1,405 has been expended on rents and management, only £671 has been spent on books and binding.

I do not stay to discuss in any detail the external causes which have retarded the progress of the Library. The establishment of such institutions as the Philosophical, combining news-rooms, lectures, and library in one payment, have no doubt taken away some subscribers. The admirable development of booksellers' reading clubs on the plan of "Mudie's" has also more seriously reduced our subscribers' list. But the continuous existence of the Institution for a time of forty years' decline, shows how it has met the wants of at least a class of readers in a great city. If it decays, the causes must lie mainly within its own borders. What are they?

The principle of vicious book-keeping long pursued, of counting all monies expended on books and binding as realisable capital; and, secondly, the method, rendered almost obligatory in our case, by one of the constitutional laws, of keeping every book entered on the catalogue in perpetuity.

Most of our present annual income goes in payment of rent, salary, and incidental expenses; the moiety is often swallowed in periodicals, subscriptions to booksellers' reading clubs; sometimes a fraction may be expended in permanent books of reference, &c. In other words, apart from our old books, we are just a miniature bookseller's reading club. This, no doubt, suits a considerable majority of our members, who mostly confine their borrowing books to the interval betwixt October and April. They could not mentally utilise the more abundant supplies of the booksellers' libraries, apart altogether from the enhanced price demanded. But

of what use is a great mass of our older books? What, for instance, of the 3,800 volumes of old novels, or the long series of once-popular periodicals now lying dormant? It would gratify our readers to have the use of a more plentiful supply of the more solid season books than the booksellers' clubs can afford to give us from their limited stores in this department of their stock; so, too, in regard to books purchased from their surplus catalogues. Had we agreed to sell again most of these every three or four years, space and funds, now both sorely needed, would be abundant. A library committee must refer publishers' literary assistants—and we have many of these on our roll—to the institutions supported by public funds. Though not assuming to themselves the office of inquisitors over a *periodic index expurgatorius*, they must recognise officially, the ephemeral character of even the great mass of our more solid literature, and act accordingly. Skilled advice as to which books to keep may easily be had. Why should not the Library Association itself assist in this matter? Further, had we agreed to have kept from £1,500 to £3,000 as a permanent endowment fund out of the £7,000 and more expended by us since 1800 for rent and library charges, the greater part of our annual income might now be spent on books, with the prospect of our subscribers' list mounting up again several hundreds. Its decrease can be traced to a time of economy, necessitated by previous over-expenditure; and temporary increases have always come when the library table was crowded with new books.

The entry money used long to form the main fund for purchasing new books. In our ten years of prosperity—1830-1840—fully £464 was thus drawn; and the sum thus added to the funds altogether since 1800 amounts to over £171,731. This formed a main feature in all libraries founded on the subscription plan. But since the advent of the newer institutions which ask only an annual payment from subscribers, who are also free from further liability to pay in succeeding years, the acceptance of shareholding liability has been much objected to by the outside public. We admitted readers who need hold no share in 1867, and the consequence appears to have been that no new shares have been bought from the library. Up till 1830 so many as 351 shares had been sold; fully 328 were taken betwixt 1830 and 1840; but during the last forty years only 101 have been sold. So far, then, the admission of readers, while giving a temporary prosperity, has invalidated a fundamental basis of our sound financial life. During all this latter period, fewer expensive books have appeared on our catalogue, for lack of the reserve fund got from this source, and mostly so expended. We have returned to the principle of such a fund, in trying a modified system of compounding. Here, again, we believe the rigidity of the first subscription library idea has to be relaxed, not abandoned. Mere annual subscribers do not show the enthusiasm often betrayed by grey-headed men who have had memories of such an institution as ours in their boyhood. Further, are not the administrative duties falling to shareholders an important part

of adult education. And, indeed, is not the greatest "idol of the den" besetting our annual Library subscriber—that nervous dread that he don't get his full money-worth of reading—most inimical to earnest study? Now, let an entry fee involve the idea of compounding, the payee to have full privileges of voting, and using the Library Hall as a club-room, even though at times books are not taken out, and he does not then pay the customary annual or quarterly subscription—then you secure a life interest in the institution. The sum so fixed need not be paid at once, but could be received periodically till completed along with the regular contributions, only it would have to be kept in a distinct account apart from the ordinary income and expenditure, its amount varying from £3 to £7 according to the circumstances of the Library. Suppose £1,700 were thus amassed in ten years, then you have the means to establish a permanent library; but experience in this way, though little more than of a year's growth, is promising.

To sum up, I think the subscription plan, with a few modifications to present-day requirements, capable of establishing district libraries in such a city as Edinburgh, each with 300 or 500 members—not books, as I have been inadvertently misreported. One year's assessment of the Free Libraries Act in Edinburgh would have permanently endowed our own institution. Its charge—four shillings per quarter, or fourpence-halfpenny a week—is not grudged by the very classes who would have specially used the Free Libraries. Let the Edinburgh opponents of the Act then show us some practical sympathy. Our vigorous life will be the best appeal against a renewal of the agitation for the Acts. The northern metropolis cannot retain its present position in reference to this important branch of adult education unless it sullies its fair name.

A brief discussion ensued, at the close of which a vote of thanks was passed to Mr. Taylor for his Paper.

The meeting then adjourned.

THE THOMLINSON LIBRARY, NEWCASTLE-UPON-TYNE.

By W. J. Haggerston.

A library belonging to the Mayor and Corporation of this ancient borough, had been located in the church of St. Nicholas, from a very early period. Dr. J. Collingwood Bruce, in his "Handbook to Newcastle-on-Tyne," published in 1863, pp. 36–37, speaking of St. Nicholas' Church, says:—"This Church has long been in possession of a small library, to which the inhabitants of the town have access. In the year 1736, Dr. Thomlinson having bequeathed his books, to the number of 1,600 to this town, Sir Walter Blackett erected the incongruous edifice which stands on the South side of the church, for the better accommodation of the collections. The vestry is on the ground floor; the old library and Dr. Thomlinson's library occupy the upper storeys. Amongst the books in the old

library are a copy of Walton's Polyglott, and some valuable editions of the Fathers. The chains by which these books were fastened to the reading-shelves are preserved: they have portions of the boards adhering to them. Little use has for many years been made of these libraries, and, unless they are committed to the care of some public institution, whose arrangements admit of free access being had to them at all reasonable hours, the only purpose they are ever likely to subserve is the breeding of successive generations of most unmetaphorical book-worms. In the old library, Brand tells us, is a very curious MS. copy of the Bible, with many beautiful illuminations, which appears to have belonged to the Church of Hexham. He (writing in 1789) thought that it could not be less than 600 years old. It is still there. There are some other MSS., dating, it is supposed, from the time of William Rufus, and even anterior to it."

On January 31, 1735–6, Dr. Thomlinson wrote to his friend, Walter Calverley Blacket, Mayor of Newcastle-upon-Tyne (afterwards Sir Walter C. Blacket), as follows:—"Dear Sir, Being desirous, when I die, y^{t} my Books should be put into a public way of being useful, and placed near ye sacred Walls of y^{t} Church in which I spent the Flower of my Age, as an unworthy Lecturer; I design'd a Plan for a Library above ye Vestry of St. Nicholas, w^{ch} if executed, I have left in my Will my whole Sudy [sic] of Books to ye Mayor and Burgesses of Newcastle, &c.—This is the best Return I can make for ye many and singular Favours receiv'd from a kind Providence and a generous Corporation; as well as ye sincerest Expression of my great Esteem for ye Church of England and her Clergy; w^{ch}, I hope, will flourish and outshine all Opposers till Books and Time itself shall be no more.

"And if you, Generous Sir, will be so good as to build y^{t} Library, so design'd by me, I do promise y^{t} y^{e} Legacy of all my Books, shall never be revers'd by, Sir,

"Your affectionate Friend, &

"Most obed^{t} Servant,

"Whickham." "Rob^{t} Thomlinson.

This request was acceded to by Mr. Blacket, and the building seems to have been completed, and Dr. Thomlinson's books and book-cases placed therein in the year 1741, for Dr. Thomlinson's will, which bears date November 5th, 1741, states that—"Whereas . . . . Walter Blacket, of Wallington, Esq., ... hath, at his own expense, built over the Vestry of the Parish Church of St. Nicolas, in Newcastle-upon-Tyne, a handsome Fabric . . . . for the reception of my Books, and those of other Benefactors, and has endowed the same with a Rent-charge of £25 a year to be paid to a Library Keeper. . . . And whereas I have put into the said Fabric, or Library, above one thousand six hundred Books, and, for the increase of the said Library, have purchased of the said Walter Blacket a Rent-charge of £5 a year, to be a perpetual Fund, to supply the said Library with Books. . . ."

The appointment of a Librarian in the first instance was made by Dr. Thomlinson himself, and the person so appointed was the Rev. Nathaniel Clayton, B.D. After the decease of Dr. Thomlinson (which took place March 24th, 1748), the appointment of the Librarian was to be left in the hands of Walter Blacket, Esq., and after his death to the heirs male of his body; and failing the said Walter Blacket, and the heirs male of his body, then the "Mayor of Newcastle-upon-Tyne for the time being, the Archdeacon of Northumberland for the time being, the Vicar of Newcastle-upon-Tyne for the time being, and the Lecturer of St. Nicolas' Church for the time being, or the majority of them." It is further stipulated in the will that each Librarian to be elected "shall be chosen from amongst the then Curates of the Churches of St. Nicolas, All Saints, St. John's, and St. Andrew's, in Newcastle-upon-Tyne, preference being given to those of St. Nicolas."

The Librarian on his appointment is required to give a bond in the sum of £300, for the full and faithful discharge of the duties of his office; and he is further required to take the following form of oath, viz.:—

"You swear that you will well and truly serve in the place or office of Librarian, or Keeper of the Library in Newcastle-upon-Tyne, called Dr. Thomlinson's Library, so long as you shall continue to be the Keeper thereof; and that you will faithfully and duly observe and keep all the Orders or Statutes thereof by you subscribed. So help you God."

The laws provide that "The Library is to be visited every year, or oftener, as the Archdeacon of Northumberland shall appoint, he deputing some of the Clergy of the Town to assist the Vicar and Lecturer of St. Nicholas's in examining and calling over the Books by the Catalogue."

"That there be two correct Catalogues of the said Books, one or both to be of Parchment, one to be kept in the Library, and the other in the Town Chamber, after they are compared and examined. And the Librarian shall at his entrance, in the presence of two or more of the Trustees, compare the Catalogue with the Books, and give bond for their preservation according to the Catalogue."

The visitors are the Archdeacon of Northumberland and the Mayor of Newcastle-upon-Tyne.

According to the Rules, "No book is to be *lent out* of the said Library, but only to one that is going to publish a Book of at least 300 Pages in Octavo. That the Borrower, that is going to publish, must not have more than four or six Books in his Custody at once, for a Time not exceeding six Weeks, or two Months at the most: unless the Book he is going to publish be large, in which case he may be allowed to borrow a greater number of Books, not exceeding ten at a Time, and for a Time not exceeding ten weeks at the most: and that only by Special Licence, under the Hands of the Archdeacon of Northumberland, as well as the Vicar and Lecturer aforesaid. He must deposit in the Hands of the Librarian double the value set on each Book; and shall sign a note to forfeit half

the value of the money, if the Book be damaged when returned; and the whole, if he returns not the Book in the Time limited. And he shall promise under his hand to give to the said Library, a printed copy of the Book he intends to publish, well bound, as soon as possible."

The Librarians appointed to succeed the Rev. Nathaniel Clayton were Rev. Richard Brewster, 1755, Rev. John Ellison, 1764, Rev. Joseph Wilkinson, 1807, Rev. John Barnet, 1826, and Rev. James Taylor in 1828. Since that period it would be a work of some difficulty to accurately name the Librarians and the dates of their appointments.

(*To be continued.*)

LIBRARY NOTES.

BIRMINGHAM.—It is expected that the new building for the Birmingham Reference Library, Principal News-room, and Central Lending Library, will be opened on June 1st. The Right Hon. J. Bright, M.P., has consented to give an address on the occasion, and it is intended that representatives of the Library Association, and of the principal libraries of the country, shall be invited to attend. Among the interesting incidents of the day will be the presentation of a sum of nearly £15,000, subscribed chiefly by the town and neighbourhood, for the purchase of books for the New Reference Library. Nearly 50,000 volumes have been secured as a commencement of the New Reference Department. It is intended that within the next few years the Reference Department alone shall contain 100,000 volumes. Very much will depend upon the steady and judicious choice of these books. Few things suffer more from haste than the making of a library. One would often gladly part with a thousand volumes which may be tolerated in a library, in favour of one hundred which have a far higher claim to be there. The previous reputation of the Birmingham Reference Library was due, not so much to the number as to the value of its works, and we hope that the New Reference Library will sustain and increase the character given it in 1869 in Mr. Edward Edwards's "Free Town Libraries"—"Really a library, and not merely a heap of books."

CAMBRIDGE.—Mr. Pink writes to us:—"For five years, to the end of 1880, our Reading-room Library (containing 900 volumes) was free from that troublesome pest, the book-stealer. In the early part of 1881 we lost two volumes. Early this year I received from the Mitchell Library, Glasgow, a large handbill recording a conviction for this offence, which handbill I suspended in our room, adding to it in large letters the word "*Caution.*" Within five or six weeks of this notice being exhibited we lost eleven volumes. I removed it on the 2nd April, since which time not a single volume has been taken away. Was it cause and effect?"

FLEETWOOD.—Several weeks ago a public meeting of ratepayers of Fleetwood declared in favour of the adoption of the Free Libraries Acts in Fleetwood. On the 2nd May, the Local Board passed a resolution declaring the vote taken at the public meeting contrary to the amended Act, and therefore not binding on the board or the ratepayers; and the board therefore decided not to entertain the question of adopting the Free Libraries Acts at present.

HASTINGS.—A public meeting has been convened for Tuesday, May 16th, by the Mayor, in compliance with an influentially signed requisition, to consider the desirability of adopting the Free Libraries Acts. It is understood that Sir Thomas Brassey has refused to allow the Reference Library which he has established at Claremont to become part of the proposed Public Library.

KINGSTON-ON-THAMES.—The Rev. J. M. Gordon writes:—"Out of the gentlemen who applied to us for the post of Librarian, we selected Mr. Charles Baxter, formerly of Newcastle and Swansea Libraries, and he came to reside here in January last. The work of selecting books goes slowly forward, and the Lending Library will, in all probability, not be opened before September or October. But the Committee were anxious that the public should begin as soon as possible to derive some benefit from the Library, and accordingly we opened the Reading-room on the first of this month. The hours are from 9 a.m. till 10 p.m. Already the boon seems greatly appreciated, and in the evenings we have more visitors than we can comfortably accommodate. There is an ample supply of all the leading newspapers and magazines, and the books already purchased are available for the use of readers on the premises. We have determined to adopt Elliot's Indicator."

LONDON: BRITISH MUSEUM.—Our readers will be glad to notice that the terms of subscription to the printed Museum Catalogue have been revised. The accessions for the year 1882 may be obtained for a subscription of £3; and the portions of the General Catalogue printed during the year for £3 10*s*. As the Catalogue is being gradually put into print as the volumes of the Manuscript Catalogue become overcrowded, the latter portions are of course taken from different parts of the alphabet.

LONDON: LONDON INSTITUTION.—The Annual General Meeting of the Proprietors was held on April 26th. The issues in the Circulating Department for the past year were reported as 75,730, as compared with 58,380 for the previous year. The percentage of fiction circulated was only 39·39. The income for the year was £4,247 4*s*. 2*d*., which shows a great advance upon the income for 1874–5, being, we believe, the late Librarian's first year of office, when the total receipts were £3,080 14*s*. 8*d*. It is remarked in the Report that the income derived from Non-Proprietors now covers the entire expense of the purchase of books, and of the subscriptions to other Libraries.

MANCHESTER.—At the opening of the new Branch Library in

Deansgate, which took place on the 6th of April, addresses were delivered by the Mayor (Mr. Alderman Baker), Mr. Jas. Crossley, and Mr. Croston. The Library opens with 18,000 volumes. The office of librarian of the Ancoats branch has been filled by the appointment of Miss Emily Casserley, who has been engaged in the library service since 1871. This is the first time that such an appointment has been made in Manchester.

READING.—Mr. W. H. Greenhough, chief librarian of the Stockport Public Free Library, and formerly of the Salford Free Libraries, has been appointed to the chief librarianship at Reading.

WYCOMBE.—The ceremony of handing over a Free Library to the town of Wycombe took place on the 18th April. The institution, which comprises a large reading-room and a reference library of equal size, together with Librarian's residence, committee rooms, &c., situated in the centre of the town, was founded by Mr. J. O. Griffits, Q.C., Recorder of Reading, and a native of Wycombe, in 1876. Since that year Mr. Griffits has borne the entire cost of its support, which amounts to a considerable sum per annum, the money raised by the public having in the meanwhile been devoted to the formation of an endowment fund. This already amounts to more than £1,200, and it is hoped will be largely augmented by the proceeds of a fancy fair to be held in July. Mr. Griffits has presented the freehold buildings to the town, on condition that the fund be increased within the next seven years to £3,000, and the formal transfer of the deeds has now been made, Lord Carrington and the Mayor of Wycombe accepting them on behalf of the town. These gentlemen and others acknowledged warmly the obligations of the town to Mr. Griffits for his splendid gift.

We are indebted to the courtesy of Herr P. E. Richter, Secretary of the Royal Public Library at Dresden, for calling our attention to the appearance of a French version of our "Cataloguing Rules" in the *Messager des Sciences Historiques* of Brussels. We are probably not wrong in supposing Herr Richter to be the author of the German translation of them mentioned in our March number.

We regret to learn that Mr. W. E. Foster's valuable reference-lists will no longer be published in the *Library Journal*. In the March number of our official organ may be read some useful notes by Mr. C. A. Cutter on placards for shelves. In the same issue M[elvil] D [ui] wants to hear of some practical device for cutting the edges of magazines and pamphlets, instead of the slow process of the ivory paper-knife. It is too much trouble to send them to the binder's to be trimmed.

Not the least among the claims of Richard Bentley to the respect of librarians is the fact that he was keeper of the Royal Libraries from 1694 to his death in 1742. The recent addition to the English Men of Letters Series (Bentley: By Professor R. C. Jebb) is made particularly interesting from the large use by the author of bibliographical illustrations.

We have received from Mr. Mason, of the Stirling's and Glasgow Public Library, a neat little folding card which he has had printed for his subscribers. It contains a list of the magazines in circulation, with perpendicular lines for the months, so that readers may note the numbers which they have borrowed. It is sold at a profit for one penny, and has proved very popular.

In the *Sunday Review* for April is a list of 77 members of the Library Association who signed the memorial of February last to Mr. Gladstone in connection with the expediency of opening the British Museum on Sunday. The memorial was supported by 2,150 signatures, all obtained during February 15-22, and is represented to have been "the most weighty expression of opinion which has ever been given on the Sunday question."

Professor Ch. Schmidt, of Strasburg, is engaged upon a work on the history of the libraries of that city during the Middle Ages, and treating incidentally the early history of the Strasburg printing-press.

The French Government have purchased the books and papers of Mariette Pacha for 79,000frs. The library amounts to 3,000 volumes on Egyptology, and is said to include an almost complete series of works issued between 1840 and 1875.

The new Bibliothèque de l'Opéra has recently been inaugurated at Paris under a decree of December 10th, 1881, which provides, among other matters, that it shall include the Opéra archives, and shall remain exclusively a special collection of dramatic and musical works, and that it shall be open to the public between August 16th and June 30th. M. Nuitter has compiled a catalogue of the dramatic books.

It is proposed to collect in one room of the Biblioteca Mediceo-Laurenziana all the Dante MSS. (amounting to about 300) in the different Florentine libraries which are under Government control.

LIBRARY CATALOGUES AND REPORTS.

Glasgow. Supplementary Catalogue of Stirling's and Glasgow Public Library, 1871–81. Glasgow, 1882. 8vo, pp. 50. Price 4*d.*

Contains the accessions of the last ten years catalogued on the dictionary plan, subjects, author, and title-entries being marked by different forms of type. Mr. Madeley's demy book-scale is followed in indicating sizes. The catalogue is followed by four pages of advertisements.

Malvern. Catalogue of the Books in the School Library, Malvern College. Leeds, 1881. 8vo, pp. 41.

A classed catalogue with a praeter-rational arrangement. Each alternate page is left blank and unnumbered.

Rochdale Free Public Library. Catalogue of the Books in the Lending Department. Compiled by George Hanson, Principal

Librarian. Rochdale, 1882. Cr. 8vo, pp. 347, half-bound. Price 1*s*.

A catalogue comprising 23,178 volumes, and compiled on the dictionary system under authors, subjects, and titles. Books are also collected under such class-headings as "Juvenile Literature," "Music," "Poems," &c. The contents of collected works and selections of contents of magazines are given, and many explanatory notes are added. Novels appearing in magazines are all catalogued under their authors and titles.

Swindon. Great Western Railway (New Swindon) Mechanics' Institution. Catalogue of Books. New and Revised Edition. Compiled by Alfred J. Birch, Librarian. Swindon, 1878. 8vo, pp. 150. Supplement to Catalogue, 1880, pp. 73. Second Supplement, 1881, pp. 19. Third Supplement, 1882, pp. 23.

A classed catalogue with entries under authors and titles. In the Supplements the contents of collected works are set out and explanatory notes added. We hope that Mr. Birch may soon be able to issue a consolidated catalogue.

Cardiff Free Library, Museum, and Science and Art Schools. Nineteenth Annual Report, 1880–81. Cardiff, 1881. 8vo, pp. 23.

The issues for the year were 62,281, being an increase of about 4,000 on the previous year. The income for the year was £1,711 6*s*. 9½*d*. (including Corporation grant of £1,292 1*s*. 4*d*.), of which £691 18*s*. 2½d. was expended upon the Library. There are some interesting tables, especially those of the books issued to male and female borrowers.

Glasgow. Annual Report of Stirling's and Glasgow Public Library, 1881–82. Glasgow, 1882. 8vo, pp. 12, and wrapper.

The issues for the year were 57,463, being at least as large a gain as in the previous year. 149 new members have joined during the year, the entire number of members now being 370. The income for the year was £694 7*s*. 9½*d*. The Directors refer to their cordial relations with the Mitchell Library.

Buffalo, N.Y. Young Men's Library. Books for Young Readers. A Classified Catalogue. By J. N. Larned. 8vo, pp. 63.

Prepared to furnish assistance in the selecting of good books for young readers, those specially recommended being marked with an asterisk. The books are classed by subjects, and are further divided into three grades for children of different ages. Brief notes are appended to the books in the class of Historical Fiction. On Manila paper.

Taunton, Mass. First Supplement to the Catalogue of the Public Library of the City of Taunton, Mass. Taunton, 1881. 4to, pp. viii.–71, boards.

"The design is to place every work under the name or names to which it may properly be attributed, and to classify it under the head or heads to which it belongs, the specific heads being themselves arranged under those more generic in character, thus bringing all closely-related subjects into juxtaposition, and enabling the reader to see at one view the resources of the Library in any given direction. It is thought that this plan avoids, to a great extent, the necessity of cross references and anticipates doubts regarding the terminology of headings." We presume that this has a meaning, and print it therefore for the benefit of cleverer heads than our own. The catalogue proper is followed by a classified index. Manila paper.

NOTICES OF BIBLIOGRAPHIES.

W. Carew Hazlitt. Second Series of Bibliographical Collections and Notes on Early English Literature, 1474–1700. London: B. Quaritch, 1882. 8vo, pp. x.–717. Price £1 16s.

Supplementary to the same writer's *Handbook*, 1867, and *Collections and Notes*, 1876. The three works contain about 21,000 titles of English works of more or less rarity, and are useful as containing materials for bibliography, although something more than the mere accurate copying of title-pages and exact description of collations should be understood by the word bibliography.

Bibliography of Robert Browning, from 1833 to 1881. Compiled by Frederick J. Furnivall. London: Published for the Browning Society by N. Trübner and Co. 1882. 8vo, pp. 117–74. Price 5s.

This consists of additions to the Bibliography in Part I. of the Browning Society's Papers, 1881, including—1. Browning's Acted Plays; 2. Fresh Entries of Criticisms on Browning's Works; 3. Fresh Personal Notices of Browning; 4. Notes on Browning's Poems and Furnivall's Bibliography; 5. Short Index; and Mr. Nettleship's Classification of Browning's Poems. The pages are chiefly occupied with extracts from various sources relating to Mr. Browning and his writings, and the compilation reflects great credit upon the industry of Mr. Furnivall. But it is a subject of regret that so much bibliographical energy would be wasted in collecting scraps of uninstructive gossip about a man of genius, who, however great may be his literary power, is still a living personage, and whose proper place in the hierarchy of fame has yet to be fixed. Mr. Browning is happily still with us, and as a crowning glory to his career may yet give to the world a series of epics upon the members of the society which bears his name.

Manchester Bibliography for 1881. By Charles William Sutton. Manchester, 1882. 8vo, pp. 157–175.

This, the second of Mr. Sutton's annual Manchester Bibliographies, is reprinted from the April number of the *Manchester Quarterly*, and exhibits the compiler's usual care and accuracy. Of the books recorded the number actually produced in Manchester is 323, and of these written by natives or residents of the city but printed elsewhere the number is 42. Mr. Sutton classifies them, and it appears that the most numerousof the classes is Politics, Commerce, and Social Questions, numbering 56. Omitting periodicals, History, Biography, and Travel come next, with 43, and in the third place Music, with 40 publications.

The Literary History of England in the End of the Eighteenth and Beginning of the Nineteenth Century. By Mrs. Oliphant. London: Macmillan and Co., 1882. 3 vols., 8vo. Price 36s.

This finds a place on the *lucus a non lucendo* principle. Mrs. Oliphant's work may be interesting to persons with a taste for harmless reading, but, as literary history without bibliography is valueless, it cannot prove of much use as a book of reference.

May's British and Irish Press Guide. 1882. London: F. L. May and Co. 8vo, pp. xvi.–256 and cover. Price 1s.

This is the ninth year of this very full and useful handbook of our newspaper and periodical literature. It registers no less than 2,137 newspapers published in the United Kingdom, besides 930 periodicals and 384 annuals, &c. There are a dictionary of subjects, &c., with the organs representing them, and a list of societies and their respective publications, besides a number of very interesting maps showing the localization of newspaper literature. Altogether the book contains a really wonderful amount of information. We observe that, although our MONTHLY NOTES is duly registered, no mention is made of our "Transactions."

Library of Harvard University. Bibliographical Contributions. Edited by Justin Winsor, Librarian. No. 15. List of American Authors in Geology and Palæontology. By J. D. Whitney. Cambridge, Mass.: Univ. Press, 1882. La. 8vo, pp. 11.

This list is reprinted from the Bulletin of Harvard University, and includes the names of persons born or of long residence in the United States who have contributed to the progress of geological or palæontological science. The following are announced to appear in the same form:—References in Analytic Geometry, by J. M. Peirce; Calendar of the Arthur Lee MSS. at Harvard; Bibliography of Fossil Insects, by S. H. Scudder; Classified Index to the Maps in Petermann's Geograph. Mittheilungen, 1855–81, by G. R. Bliss, Jun.; and list of the most useful reference books, by Justin Winsor.

Catalogue of French Books offered for Sale by Dulau and Co., 37, Soho Square, W.C. London: Dulau and Co., 1882. Sm. 8vo, pp. 326.

A useful price-list of modern French literature.

Bibliographie Belge: Journal Général de l'Imprimerie, de la Librairie et des Industries qui s'y rattachent; publié sur les Documents fournis par le Ministre de l'Intérieur. 1re Année. No. 1, 15 Avril, 1882. Bruxelles, 1882. La. 8vo.

This proposes to issue a list of every publication brought out in Belgium.

Das Zeitungswesen sonst und jetzt; Von Detler Freiherr von Biedermann. Leipzig: Friedrich, 1882. Sm. 8vo, pp. 109. Price 2*s*.

An interesting little work written in a popular manner. The bibliographical part leaves much to be desired, however.

Biografia del Cardinale Angelo Mai; da Benedetto Prina. Bergamo: Giaffieri e Gatti, 1882. 8vo, pp. 107.

One of the chapters of Professor Prina's interesting volume is devoted to Mai's labours at the Vatican.

Angelo Mai e Giacomo Leopardi; da Dott. Elia Zerbini. Bergamo: Giaffieri e Gatti, 1882. 8vo.

Both of these works were issued on the occasion of the celebration of the centenary of the great Cardinal-Librarian at Bergamo, in February last. In 1820 Leopardi addressed an eloquent *canzone* to Mai on his discovery of the *De Republica* of Cicero.

Anuario Bibliográfico de la República Arjentina: Ano II., 1880; Director Alberto Navarro Viola. Buenos Aires, 1881. Sm. 8vo, pp. 409, and 1 leaf unnumbered.

A list, with critical notices, of the books published during 1880 in the Argentine Confederation, which has become one of the most flourishing States of South America. Under bibliography eight books are described.

The following Indexes have recently been issued:—*General Index to the Transactions of the Zoological Society of London.* Vols. I.–X., 1835–79. London: Printed for the Society, 1881. 4to, pp. 98, price 10*s*. And *General Index to the Journal of the Quekett Microscopical Club*, first series. Vols. I.–VI., 1868–81. London: Published for the Club by D. Bogue, 1882. 8vo, pp. 22, price 6*d*. The latter was compiled by our member, Mr. Alpheus Smith, the Librarian of the Club.

In the (New York) *Publishers' Weekly* for April 8th appears the commencement of a bibliography of books and articles relating to literary property, copyright, &c., compiled by Mr. Thorvald Solberg. The list has been looked over by Mr. Spofford, the Librarian of Congress.

In Mr. Stanford's announcement of his new map of Central Equatorial Africa it is notified that a bibliography will be published of the authorities upon which the map is based. It would be well if all maps of little known localities were accompanied with a similar list.

An interesting International Exhibition of the Graphic Arts and of Book Manufacture is to be held at Leipzig in the course of the summer. The articles exhibited will be displayed under the following sections:—1. An historical exhibition showing the progress in the making of books from 1450 to 1850; 2. Typography and printing in relief; 3. Other graphic arts; 4. Bookbinding in conjunction with printing; 5. Manufacture of machinery for printing purposes; 6. Machinery and tools for all of the above-named industries.

MM. J. de Beauchamps and Ed. Rouveyre are going to bring out a "Guide du Libraire-Antiquaire et du Bibliophile: Vade Mecum à l'usage de tous ceux qui achètent ou vendent des libres." The periodical will appear in two monthly parts of 16 pages, each with two or more plates of bindings, book-plates, rare title-pages, &c.

M. Ch. Rœssler, of Havre, is preparing a bibliography of all documents, plans, prints, &c., relating to that town.

A bibliography of the numerous works of the late Paulin Paris is being compiled by his son, M. Gaston Paris.

Prof. Comparetti has been deputed to draw up a catalogue of the papyri discovered at Herculaneum.

The third fasciculus of the *Bibliographie de l'Oratoire*, par le Père A. M. P. Ingold, librarian of the Oratory, has lately been issued. The last part reaches to *Morin*.

A lengthy bibliographical notice by M. A. Fage is included in his recent edition of the *Œuvres de Baluze*. Tulle: imp. Grauffon, 1882. Sm. 8vo, pp. 119.

Prof. Paul Meyer succeeds the late M. Quicherat as Director of the Ecole des Chartes.

A bibliography of the philosopher's writings and of works on his life and doctrines is prefixed to *The Philosophical System of Antonio Rosmini-Serbati*: translated by Thomas Davidson. London: Kegan Paul and Co., 1882. 8vo.

An article on "The Boke of St. Albans," in the *Bibliographer* for May, states that the only perfect copies known of the first edition are those in the collections of Earl Spencer and the Earl of Pembroke. The remainder of the article is occupied with the relation of an apocryphal story told o the glorification of the

imaginative bookseller who purchased the Littlecote copy. We may remark that the Powderham copy referred to in MONTHLY NOTES of March is quite as perfect as that of Earl Spencer.

NOTES AND QUERIES.

AUTHOR WANTED ("MONTHLY NOTES," Vol. iii., p. 64).—"The Perils of the Nation" was written by Robert B. Seeley. See Allibone and the Advocates' Lib. Catalogue.—C. W. S.

BOOK WASH AND VARNISH.—Our binder has given me the following recipe for the wash used by him in *cleaning* bookbinding:—Dissolve about two ounces of kid glue in a pint of water, add half-teaspoonful of oxalic acid, and about twelve drops of strong ammonia. Use warm with a sponge. Is there likely to be any harm to the leather from the infusion of oxalic acid? He uses the following *varnish*:—Spirits of wine, shellac, and benzoin. Use as much shellac as the spirits will dissolve. About a quarter of a pound of benzoin to a quart of spirits. Half-a-pound of shellac in a quart of spirits will make the varnish moderately thick.—C. W. S.

CORRESPONDENCE.

A WORD OF CAUTION.

SIR,—A man is going the round of the Libraries stating that he is an Assistant Librarian out of employment, and in search of work: anything, so long as it will enable him to live. He represents himself as having been employed in different Libraries according to the town which he happens to be honouring (?) with his presence. He told me that he had been engaged at one of the Manchester Branch Libraries, and at Manchester last year he stated that he had been employed at Leicester. He accounts for being out of employment by saying that he left Library work to accept a clerkship at the Cape; the climate brought on fever, and he was sent home again, and, on inquiry, he told me that he had been back in England eight weeks. Mr. Sutton writes me that he paid Manchester a visit last summer—a little discrepancy here. He is an arrant scoundrel, a professional beggar, who has gone about the country pretty well, and seems to have learnt a great deal of the personal history of Librarians; but when he is catechised about technicalities, the imposture is at once disclosed. I might tell much more, but enough. Forewarned is forearmed; if he should visit any members of the Association they will know how to act.

Yours, &c.,

Doncaster. J. B.

London: TRÜBNER & CO., Ludgate Hill.

Single Numbers, Threepence each. Annual Subscription, post free, 3s. 6d.

VOL. 3. No. 6.] [*June* 15, 1882.

BIBLIOTHECA · BODLEIANA

MONTHLY NOTES

OF THE

Library Association

of the United Kingdom.

Contents:—Official Notices—June Monthly Meeting: Paper by Mr. Ernest C. Thomas, "Library Statistics of Europe"—"Opening of the Birmingham Libraries"—"The Thomlinson Library," by W. J. Haggerston.—Library Notes—Catalogues and Reports—Notices of Bibliographies—Correspondence.

THE next Monthly Meeting of the Association will be held at the London Institution, Finsbury Circus, on Friday, July 7th, 1882, at 8 p.m., for the transaction of business.

After the Monthly Meeting will be held a Meeting of the Committee (of the whole Association) appointed to prepare illustrations to the Cataloguing Rules.

The Committee on Size-Notation will also meet.

The date of the Annual Meeting at Cambridge, has been definitely fixed for Tuesday, the 5th September, and probably *three* following days. A meeting of Cambridge residents has been held, and a Committee appointed to make the necessary local arrangements. The Council will be glad to receive offers of Papers as early as possible.

The following letter has been received from Mr. Edward Edwards, in acknowledgment to the intimation that he had been elected an Honorary Member of our Association:—

12, Iffley Road, Oxford,
10*th May*, 1882.

DEAR SIR,—My most cordial and respectful thanks are offered to the Library Association for the honour they have done me in placing my name upon their roll as an Honorary Member, a distinction which I highly prize.

The one regret that mingles with my feelings of satisfaction upon the occasion is, that I can scarcely hope to testify my sense of the obligation conferred upon

me, even by my attendance as a looker-on, at the Cambridge Meeting. Advanced age, fast-failing strength, and increasing deafness are warnings that may not be disregarded.

To the worthy labours of the Association, I heartily wish every prosperity.

For the kindness which prompted you to propose me for the honour, and for the very obliging terms in which you have notified it, I tender my especial thanks. I am, Dear Sir, With great respect,

Your Faithful Servant,

EDWARD EDWARDS.

ERNEST THOMAS, Esq.,
Hon Secretary of the Library Association.

It is hoped that those of our members, who have not already paid their subscriptions for the current year, will forward them to the TREASURER before the books are closed for the audit, and it is also hoped that as many members as possible will show their appreciation of the MONTHLY NOTES in their enlarged form by forwarding the additional voluntary subscription of 2*s*.

JUNE MONTHLY MEETING.

THE Eighth Monthly Meeting of the Fifth Year of the Association was held at the London Institution, on Friday, June 2nd, at 8 p.m., Mr. B. R. WHEATLEY, V.P., in the chair.

The minutes of the last meeting having been read and confirmed, it was announced that Mr. James M. Horsburgh, Principal Librarian of the London Institution, had joined the Association. Mr. J. P. Edmond, 64, Bonaccord Street, Aberdeen, and Mr. William Buchanan, 10, Carrington Street, Glasgow, were duly elected members of the Association. The following gentlemen were proposed and seconded for election at the next Monthly Meeting: Mr. A. B. Chamberlain, Whetstone, Somerset Road, Edgbaston, and Mr. Silvanus Wilkins, Forest House, Moseley, proposed by Mr. SCARSE; Mr. Walter T. Glover, Moorhurst, Kersal, Manchester, proposed by Mr. THOMAS.

It was proposed by Mr. H. R. TEDDER, and seconded by Mr. E. C. THOMAS, that Count Ugo Balzani and Professor Carl Dziatzko be elected Honorary Members of the Association.

The Chairman then called upon Mr. ERNEST C. THOMAS to read a Paper, entitled

LIBRARY STATISTICS OF EUROPE,

Of which, in consequence of the pressure on our space, we can only present an abstract.

After referring to the development of interest in general library statistics within recent times, the writer described briefly the various attempts that had been made to deal with (1) the library statistics of particular countries; (2) general European and comparative statistics. The statistics of France, Italy, Switzerland, and Austria in particular, had been more or less satisfactorily ascertained and published within the last twenty years—those of France, Italy, and

Austria by their respective Governments, those of Switzerland and Germany generally by private effort.

Not very much had been done, at all events, to publish general or comparative statistics since the attempts of Constantin in 1839, and the fuller inquiries of Mr. Edward Edwards, whose results were published by the Statistical Society in 1848. Inquiries were instituted, in connexion with the Select Committees of the House of Commons on the British Museum and on Public Libraries, in 1836–7 and 1849–50 respectively. In the former case but little information was collected; in the latter case, returns were received from Continental Governments, describing, but describing rather generally, some 264 libraries. Meantime, Mr. Edwards had supplemented his former tables, and was enabled to furnish the Committee with statistical accounts of 457 libraries (including those in the United Kingdom) of 10,000 volumes and upwards.

Since that time very little had been done to present details, though summary comparisons on insufficient data had been made by the compilers of some of the reports issued by particular governments on their own libraries, especially in the Italian and Austrian Reports already mentioned. The treatment of this question in the United States Report is not one of the most satisfactory chapters in that valuable volume, occupying itself too exclusively with Balbi, and not making full use of later authorities. Very recently a paper was published by Bratassevic in an Austrian official publication, the *Statistische Monatschrift*, in which an attempt was made to compare the library statistics of the chief European countries. Austria was patriotically brought out at the head of the list, as possessing the largest number of public libraries, and the largest percentage of books in such libraries in proportion to its population. Next in number of libraries came France, Italy, Prussia, and then Great Britain, which was said to have only 200 libraries, with 2,871,493 printed volumes and 26,000 MSS.! Austria was shown to possess 26·8 volumes per 100 inhabitants, while Great Britain had only 6 per 100. The writer would not have attached so much importance to the article, but for the fact that it had been quoted as authoritative in English journals, and had been reproduced in our official organ without comment and apparently without suspicion. The writer went on to show the obvious incorrectness of the figures, as well as the incompleteness of the list appended by Bratassevic to his paper of the (154) European libraries of 25,000 volumes and upwards, and briefly summarised the results of an inquiry which Mr. Tedder and himself had recently been conducting, an account of which will shortly be published in the new volume of the *Encyclopædia Britannica*. He concluded by urging that library statistics, though their value might of course be easily exaggerated, nevertheless had great interest, and might prove of great practical service.

A brief discussion followed, after which a vote of thanks was passed to Mr. Thomas for his Paper.

The Meeting then adjourned.

OPENING OF THE BIRMINGHAM LIBRARIES.

On Thursday, June 1st, the new Central Free Reference and Lending Libraries and Temporary Art Gallery were formally opened by a meeting at the Town Hall, followed by a banquet given by the Mayor in the evening. But before relating the incidents of this most interesting occasion, it may be worth while to devote a few words to the past history of the Free Library. The Act was adopted at Birmingham on June 21st, 1860, and the District Library at Constitution Hill was that first opened on April 22nd of the following year. A building for a Central Library was subsequently erected, and the Lending Department and Art Gallery made accessible to the public on September 6th, 1865. The Reference Library was not ready until twelve months later, the interval having been occupied in selecting books upon the principle of representing every phase of human thought, of acquiring works of permanent value, as well as modern and popular literature, and of adding rare and costly volumes not usually to be found in provincial or private libraries. A collection of 16,195 volumes was thus brought together, and the Reference Department opened on October 26th, 1866. Two years later, the famous Shakespeare Memorial Library was commenced, and in 1873 Mr. Bragge presented his Cervantes Collection in 590 volumes. The important Staunton Warwickshire Collection was purchased for £2,285 in 1875. These and many other accessions made more accommodation for them a pressing necessity; and it was in carrying out plans for new buildings that occurred the disastrous fire of Saturday, January 11th, 1879, which entirely destroyed the fabric and all the books except about a thousand volumes. With the prompt energy to be expected of Birmingham citizens, the Free Libraries' Committee passed a resolution on the following Monday, declaring that it was a public duty to repair the loss, and asking for a subscription of not less than £10,000. A sub-committee was also appointed to devise a scheme for a new library. At a subsequent public meeting, the appeal was heartily responded to, and at the close of the year £14,000 had been collected. This sum has since been increased, and still remains untouched, the insurance fund and a portion of the ordinary income having been alone expended. Temporary apartments for reference and lending libraries were fitted up in the Council House, and the new building was commenced, the plans having been agreed to about three months after the fire. A few facts relating to this last and notable addition to great English libraries may be here given. A portico, 32 feet wide and 12 feet deep, affords entry to the vestibule, which is 29 feet wide by 20 feet deep, separated from the hall by a glass screen. The entrance hall is of noble proportions, being 60 feet long, 28 feet wide, and 45 feet high. At the right hand are placed the circulating library and the news-room, a lofty, well ventilated hall, 100 feet long and 64 feet wide, fitted with stands and other conveniences. The reference library on the first storey is approached by a

staircase winding up the side of the lofty entrance-hall. It is somewhat in the shape of Γ, the projection at right angles representing the room used as a Temporary Art Gallery, the upright line standing for the Library proper. The latter is divided into a central compartment and two aisles by granite columns, supporting arches, in which are clerestory windows fitted in with coloured glass. There are also sky lights in the roof. The centre of the room reaches to 50 feet, the aisles being 23 feet high. The latter are separated by barriers from the centre of the room, and contain the presses for books placed against the walls. Around both rooms is a light iron gallery, giving access to the upper shelves. A marked feature of the ornamentation of the room is the splendid glazed bookcase, occupying the whole of the entrance end of the room, which is to contain books of special value. All the fittings are of oak, and admirably finished and arranged. The decorations are extremely rich and beautiful. Leading out of the Temporary Art Gallery is the Shakespeare Library, upon which special decoration has been lavished. The design is Elizabethan, and the bookcases, which are glazed, richly carved. The upper compartments are filled in with screens of gilt metal-work. These are the apartments to which the public are admitted, but there are other rooms for the use of the officials. Altogether, for convenience of arrangement and beauty of design, this new Library leaves nothing to be desired. The total cost, including fittings and all other expenses, will be between £52,000 and £53,000. About 50,000 volumes have been already collected for the Reference, and 20,000 volumes for the Lending Library. Upon the former, £12,000 have been already expended, and a great number of books have been presented. The new Art Gallery has already been enriched by a superb collection of paintings by David Cox, and other valuable gifts.

The inaugural ceremony took place at twelve o'clock in the Town Hall, which was filled with an audience consisting of leading townspeople, representatives of the educational and other public institutions, donors to the Library Restoration Fund, the Mayor (Mr. Alderman Avery), Mr. J. Bright, Mr. J. Chamberlain, Sir H. Parkes, Mr. G. J. Johnson, Chairman, Mr. Timmins, Mr. J. T. Bunce, Mr. Tonks, and the other members of the Library Committee; besides Mr. J. D. Mullins (Chief Librarian), Mr. G. Wakeley (Sub-Librarian), and other members of his staff. A special feature in the proceedings was the invitations which had been extended to about fifty of the leading Librarians of the county, nearly all of whom accepted the honour thus shown to them. The following gentlemen (nearly all members of our Association) were present:—

Sir P. CUNLIFFE OWEN, South Kensington; G. BULLEN, British Museum; H. R. TEDDER, Athenæum Club; E. C. THOMAS, Hon. Sec. Library Association; E. B. NICHOLSON, Bodleian Library; Sir J. A. PICTON, Chairman, P. COWELL, Chief Librarian, Liverpool Public Library; Alderman BAKER, Chairman, C. W. SUTTON, Chief Librarian, Manchester Public Library; C. E. SCARSE, Birmingham Old Library; R. K. DENT, Aston Manor; G. CATLIN, Handsworth; J. BAILEY, Smethwick; C. F MACKMAIN, Bilston; C. G. VIRGO, Bradford; J. F.

NICHOLLS, Bristol; E. BROWN, Coventry; S. STEPHENS, Darlaston; F. T. BARRETT, Glasgow; J. YATES, Leeds; W. J. HAGGERSTON, Newcastle-on-Tyne; J. P. BRISCOE, Nottingham; W. H. K. WRIGHT, Plymouth; A. COTGREAVE, Richmond; T. HURST, Sheffield; A. MORGAN, Walsall; C. MADELEY, Warrington; T. HAYNES, Warwick; D. MARSH, Willenhall; and Mr. HENRY STEVENS, representing American Libraries.

In opening the proceedings the MAYOR gave an account of the history of the Library, and of the exertions made to repair the loss, and said the ceremony of that day would constitute a memorable incident in the annals of Birmingham. The Library was truly free, inasmuch as the people were invited to participate in its treasures without payment, and without let or hindrance. It was great also, not only in the sense of magnitude, but as being a collection of the finest monuments of literature. They had the pleasure of opening this restored Library with 50,000 volumes, not a mere mass of books, but a well selected library. Mr. JAFFRAY (Treasurer of the Restoration Committee) then handed to the Mayor a cheque of £15,179 18*s.* 8*d.*, representing the contributions to the Restoration Fund, and suggested that after the cheque had been cashed it should be framed and hung up among the art treasures of the Library.

Mr. JOHN BRIGHT, in delivering his inaugural address, remarked that his speaking from that platform had generally been connected with great political questions on which there was often much conflict of opinion, and in which the speaker was stimulated with a desire to convince. There was now no conflict, but a perfect unanimity. Many platitudes were usually spoken on these occasions, and perhaps on this subject as on education, everything that could be said had been spoken many hundreds of times. He would, however, relate an incident of his own experience connected with his late friend, Sir David Dundas, whom he visited upon his death bed, and who said: "I have never pretended to be a learned man or a scholar, but God has given me a great love of books," and gave him (Mr. Bright) a parting benediction in a quotation from a letter of Lord Bacon, "May God lead you by the hand." What was a great love of books? It was, in point of fact, something like a personal introduction to the great and good men of all times. Many of us have felt something of this feeling when in a great library. A house might possess costly pictures, valuable ornaments, and a great variety of decoration, but the speaker would prefer to these, one comfortable room well stocked with books. The only subject of lamentation is, that life was too short to enjoy them all. After referring to the great libraries at Windsor, Chatsworth, Woburn, and other places, Mr. Bright said that, not only in the houses of royalty, of tremendous personages, and of the middle classes, but also in the houses of the most humble, a little library was a most precious possession. Twenty years ago, when spending a holiday in Sutherlandshire, he entered a shepherd's cottage, where the only book was a thin volume of an edition, never before or since seen, of "Paradise Regained," the work of a poet unsurpassed in any age or any country. The presence of this little volume seemed to transfigure the solitary cottage, which was illumined as

it were, by the genius of Milton. He went on to say that he was not a critic and had never been a writer, but he had an opinion of the books he read. He had read one very lately to which he would like to refer. It was a book containing the compositions of the most remarkable old lady he had ever heard of, one Janet Hamilton. She was the wife of a journeyman shoemaker, and had had a family of ten children. She never went to school, she did not learn to write till she was fifty, became blind at sixty, and lived to about 76. The love of books was her ruling passion. Now this old lady has written poems, which, if placed among the writings of Burns, no one would doubt were the work of the greatest of Scotch poets. Mr. Bright then spoke at some length of the American poets, referring to Bryant, Longfellow, Whittier, Wendell Holmes and Lowell, and quoted the "Song of Hiawatha," and the "Farewell of a Virginian Slave-mother." Without exaggerating the productions of the American poets, he would give them the title of "pleasure-giving," which, forty years ago, he had given to Leigh Hunt, affording thereby much satisfaction to the poet. He would mention one other book, to his mind the most instructive book of history he had ever read, Bancroft's "History and Colonisation of the United States," which deserves to be read by everybody who wishes to have a true knowledge of some of the most important events which transpired during the last century. In the Central Library no price would be demanded, and no question asked as to any book that might be wanted to be read. Everything would be free, not to the rich only, but to the poor also, as well as to that large class, neither rich nor poor. No greater blessing than a love of books could be given to an artizan's family. In conclusion, Mr. Bright said: "I spoke of the library in the beginning of my observations as a fountain of refreshment, instruction, and wisdom. Of it may be said, that he who drinks shall still thirst, and thirsting for knowledge and still drinking, we may hope that he will grow to a greater mental and moral stature, more useful as a citizen, more moral as a man. Mr. Mayor, I cannot sit down without offering my word of congratulation to you over the circumstances which have brought about this day's interesting occupation. The wisdom and the generosity of your municipality are conspicuous; if not known, you are becoming known as the leading municipality in this country."

Mr. J. CHAMBERLAIN proposed a vote of thanks to the subscribers, the committee, and officers of the Library Restoration Fund. He agreed with Mr. Bright in his estimate of the value of small collections of books, and did not doubt that a few books, properly read and comprehended, might be of more use to their possessor than the vast collection of some millionaire. He was a great believer in miscellaneous reading. Mr. G. J. JOHNSON seconded the resolution, which was carried unanimously. Mr. SAM. TIMMINS, in reply, said their work was not yet finished. It might be hoped that some of those present would render additional assistance in making the central library of the central town of England worthy of the Borough and

of the neighbourhood by which it was surrounded. After a vote of thanks to the Mayor, the company left the Town Hall and visited the new building, which was then declared to be open.

In the evening, the Mayor gave a banquet to celebrate the event. About 140 guests sat down to table, and among those present were most of those gentlemen whose names have already been mentioned. After the usual loyal and colonial toasts, the latter of which were responded to by Lord NORTON and Sir H. PARKES in a manner quite commensurate with the magnitude of the subject, Mr. J. CHAMBERLAIN proposed the toast of the "Duties of the Municipality towards Art and Literature." He said twenty years ago many persons would have disposed of the question in very few words. They would have been considered matters above the comprehension of town councillors and aldermen. There had grown up, however, an extended conception of the capacities of local government. One result had been the attraction to municipal life of men of higher character and great intellectual power.

Mr. R. W. DALE responded on behalf of "Literature." The library opened that day would not augment the material wealth of the town. In the erection of that library they had higher purposes in view. Its value was largely increased in his mind by the fact that they owed it not to private munificence, but to the public spirit of the municipality. By erecting Libraries and Galleries of Art they were surrounding municipal life with new and higher interests. Sir P. CUNLIFFE OWEN responded for "Art." Mr. Alderman COLLINGS proposed "Libraries and Librarians," and excited some laughter when he said that he had been accused of setting on fire the old Library, in order to get a better one; and the laughter was increased by his inadvertent remark of "But so it was." Mr. Alderman BAKER (Mayor of Manchester), in reply, observed that Mr. Bright had delivered an interesting and "intelligent" address. Mr. E. B. NICHOLSON (Bodley's Librarian) said that librarians could have but one opinion as to the collection of books which had been gathered together, the building provided for them, and the opportunities of self-instruction and recreation afforded to the poorest inhabitant of Birmingham. And, although the librarian was very often a ratepayer, with an income inadequate to his social position, no less than to his skill and energy, he believed that nearly all librarians admitted the impossibility of maintaining such libraries on the voluntary system, and endorsed the principles of the Public Libraries Acts. The non-adoption of those Acts by such towns as London (one parish excepted), Edinburgh, Glasgow, Dublin, Belfast, Hull and Portsmouth, was not only a local but a national misfortune. Unless such towns hastened their steps, adoption should be made compulsory; for the rate-supported public library was, directly or indirectly, every man's gain, and was an indispensable element in popular education and popular civilisation. He cordially acknowledged the industry, energy, and ingenuity contributed to their profession by free public librarians and not least by Mr. Mullins and such former Birmingham men as Mr.

Barrett and Mr. Haggerston. Mr. J. BRIGHT, in proposing the health of the Mayor, agreed that nothing could be of greater advantage to the country than that the municipal corporations of the United Kingdom should have increased powers. The MAYOR, in responding, expressed his profound gratification that so many gentlemen of literary distinction representing other institutions, were with them that day. The priceless collection of books they had seen had been acquired absolutely by the potentiality of the penny rate.

A select few then adjourned to hold the usual meeting of the Executive Committee. We must apologise for even mentioning the name of that mysterious body; but it ought to be known that it was owing to one of its members, Mr. J. Thackray Bunce, supported by another prominent officer, Mr. Sam. Timmins, that so many librarians were asked to attend the ceremony of the morning. We can say no more, but merely add that a great deal of urgent and important business was transacted amid the chanting of weird hymns, and the celebration of mystic rites known only to the initiated. At last, this pleasant day, ever to be remembered by those who were present, came to an end. In conclusion, acknowledgment should be made to our excellent Vice-President, Mr. J. D. Mullins, both for the important share he took in the preparations for the day and for the attention he paid to the comfort of his *confrères*.

H. R. T.

THE THOMLINSON LIBRARY, NEWCASTLE-UPON-TYNE.

(*Continued from* p. 72.)

THE Visitors for the year 1789 report that they "found all the books in their proper places (and generally in good state and condition) as specified in the Catalogue," except 14 stated to be wanted, and that 2 had been replaced.

The Report for 1826 is to the effect that with a view to make the Library more generally useful, permission had been given to Mr. Emerson Charnley, bookseller, to print and publish a catalogue of the collections, which he had undertaken to do at his own risk and expense. Mr. Charnley was further requested to furnish an estimate of the probable expense of putting the Library into proper repair, many of the volumes being found in a state of rapid decay; but as there was no fund for the purpose, the visitors suggested that a public subscription should be entered into to defray the cost, as well as the "fitting up the Library in such a manner as to render it convenient for study." The Reverend the Librarian was also instructed to attend between the hours of 11 and 1 every day, except Sundays, Festivals, Fast Days, and Saturdays, which were set apart for cleaning the books.

Little evidently had been done, for in the following year the Visitors found the books, especially those in the Old Library, to be in a "very bad state," and they gave instructions to Mr. Charnley to "superintend the repairing and binding of those books, and to

make a catalogue of the same, which is to be done at the expense of the Corporation (this section being called the Corporation Library), so as to put the Library into that state in which it may be creditable to the Corporation, and useful to the inhabitants."

From this period until August, 1829, the local papers were filled with letters from indignant townsmen, who insisted on having the Library open not from 11 to 1 on five days in the week, but for six hours in the day for one part of the year, five hours for another, and never at any time of the year for less than four hours. In July of that year, a deputation from the Newcastle Literary and Philosophical Society waited upon the Mayor to request that the Trustees would deal with the matter. On the 31st of that month the Mayor, the Vicar, and the Lecturer of St. Nicholas, met in Dr. Thomlinson's Library, when it was resolved:—"That the Library shall be accessible to the public during the hours pointed out by the will of the late Dr. Thomlinson, which are as follows: From the 10th of March to the 10th of September, from seven o'clock in the morning to one in the afternoon; from the 10th of September to the 10th of November, from eight to one; from the 10th of November to the 16th of January, from nine to one; and from the 16th of January to the 10th of March, from eight in the morning to one in the afternoon, on every day, unless it be Sunday, Festival, or Fast Day, and shall be open in the afternoon from three o'clock to six o'clock, if the sun do not set before, in the event of any person from the country coming to the Library on purpose to study."

In the same year Mr. Charnley's promised Catalogue was published. It is a work that reflects very great credit upon the compiler for accuracy of transcription, but is comparatively useless to the student, as it is a mere alphabetical list according to authors' names, and the student wishing to follow up any particular subject would find it useless unless (which is very unlikely) he was thoroughly acquainted with the authorities on such subject. Things improved at the Library, but the interest soon fell off. Visitors could not get the book they asked for, others were in such a condition as to be unfit to use, the room was not opened at the hours named, and so the matter wore on, until for many years past I am satisfied many a day goes over without a single person being put to the trouble to hunt up the beadle in his solitude near to the workshop of the late Thomas Bewick.

For more than fifty years, the Committee of the Literary and Philosophical Society have been making attempts to get the Library transferred to their fine building in Westgate Road, but the negotiations have always broken down, the principal difficulty during the late Vicar's term of office being the £25, or rather £30 per annum endowment. The present Vicar, the Rev. Canon Martin, M.A., speaking at the banquet which followed the inauguration of the Public Library, South Shields, Oct. 16th, 1873, in reply to the toast of the "Literary Institutions of the North," said "That he was a trustee of one of the oldest Literary institutions in this part of the kingdom, that curious, old, and now obsolete

library, called Thomlinson's Library. It was, perhaps, as little used as a library could be, the old books in many cases covered with dust, with dilapidated clothing, waiting till some old bookworm came to make his researches, and fish out something worth knowing. . . . There was precious little in the Thomlinson Library to arouse the emotional spirit, unless one was interested in the ecclesiastical controversy of 250 years ago; but still it was a grand old library—and it was a free library."

In conclusion, allow me to say, that since the establishment of the Public Library, the subject of transferring the contents of the Thomlinson Library to the Reference Department of the new building now in course of erection, has been again and again re-opened, and the Public Libraries' Committee have appointed a sub-Committee to consider the whole question, to examine the library, confer with the trustees and report as to the advisability of taking over the entire collection, so that for all time it may be carefully preserved, and the entire public, not only of Newcastle and the Northern Counties, but of the country at large, may have the advantage of its use. I shall not fail to advise the readers of MONTHLY NOTES of the future progress of the negotiations.

W. J. HAGGERSTON.

LIBRARY NOTES.

BELFAST.—On the 1st inst., a large and influential deputation presented a memorial to the Belfast Town Council urging the establishment of a Public Library, Art Gallery, and Museum, under the Free Libraries Act. The Mayor promised to call a meeting on the subject at the earliest possible moment.

BIRMINGHAM.—It is surely not the least notable circumstance in connection with the re-opening of the Birmingham Central Libraries (of which we have spoken elsewhere in the present number), that Cardinal Newman has sent the Mayor a cheque for £20 towards the Library Fund.—Messrs. Tangye Brothers have offered to furnish a "John Bright Room" in the new Library in a style equal to that of the "Shakspeare Room," and to provide it with books on political economy, statistics, and modern history, and also to establish a fund for the purpose of keeping up the supply of books, and of providing prizes to students of these subjects.

CARDIFF.—The new Free Library building was opened on the 31st of May, in presence of the Mayor and Corporation of Cardiff. An imposing procession, representing nearly every public body connected with the town, passed through the town before the ceremony, and business was largely suspended.

HASTINGS.—At the public meeting held on the 16th of May to consider the desirability of adopting the Public Libraries Acts, it was decided, after a long and animated discussion, not to adopt them. Only about twenty voted in favour of their adoption, and Mr. Liddiard, the mover of the resolution, finally withdrew his demand for a poll.

HULL.—The forty-fifth annual meeting of the Yorkshire Union of Mechanics' Institutes will be held at Hull on Wednesday, June 21st, 1882, at the Royal Philosophical Institute. The conference will be opened by Sir Edward Baines, the President of the Union, and the evening meeting will be presided over by Lord Edmond Fitzmaurice, M.P. The number of institutes in the Union in 1881 was 256, most of which possess libraries of their own, besides which the Union has a Village Library of over 16,000 volumes, which are circulated in boxes of 50 volumes each amongst over 160 villages.

LEICESTER.—Mr. J: Hart, High Bailiff of the Borough of Leicester, has offered to present a new Free Library to East St: Margaret's Ward. Plans have been approved by the donor, and the building will soon be commenced. The structure will be a handsome one, and the front will be decorated by carved panels. The principal room will be 55 feet by 34, and a Librarian's room and offices will be included.

LIVERPOOL.—LIVERPOOL (LYCEUM) LIBRARY.—The one hundred and twenty-third annual meeting of the proprietors of this Library was held on Tuesday, May 23rd, the President, Mr. Fred. Wevill, in the chair. The Committee's Annual Report showed that during the year, ending April 30th, the Library had been open 306 days, and in that period 61,176 works (equal to about 150,000 vols.) were issued, being an average of about 500 volumes. We find, from the Treasurer's Accounts, that £635 10*s.* 7*d.* has been expended in the purchase and hire of books and bookbinding; and, after the payment of the necessary working expenses of the Library, a balance of £116 14*s.* 8*d.* is carried forward. There have been 1,166 volumes added to the permanent stock of the Library during the year, and 1,409 volumes have been borrowed from London Subscription Libraries, making a total acquisition of 2,575 volumes of new books.

LONDON.—BRABY AND CO.'S LIBRARY.—The twelfth annual meeting was held in the new building, erected as a Library, at Messrs. Braby and Co.'s works, Deptford, Mr. Frederick Braby in the chair. Mr. W. R. Douthwaite, of Gray's Inn, and Mr. C. Welch, our Hon. Secretary, were present. The Report was read by Mr. G. R. Humphrey, the Hon. Secretary. The Library now contains over 1,400 volumes, and the circulation for last year was 990. A resolution of congratulation and good-will was moved by the Rev. R. J. Simpson, and seconded by Mr. Douthwaite.

LONDON.—LONDON LIBRARY.—The annual meeting was held on Thursday, May 25th, when Sir Henry Barkly took the chair, and, in moving the adoption of the Report (see p. 96), referred to the fact of the occasion being the twenty-fifth anniversary of the librarianship of Mr. R. Harrison, under whose management the Library has shown a steady improvement. In 1857 there were only 660 members; there are now 1,712. Suggestions were made as to circulating the Report beforehand among the members, and opening the Library in the evening, and it was understood that

these questions would have the careful consideration of the Committee.

LONDON.—SOUTH LONDON FREE LIBRARY.—This is entirely supported by voluntary subscriptions, and in consequence of a demand having been made by the parochial authorities for rates, a public meeting was held on Monday, June 6, to protest against the attempt, as being contrary to the Act 6 and 7 Victoria, c. 36, which exempts such institutions. It was finally agreed that a member of the council should wait upon the assessment authorities on the subject.

MANCHESTER.—We are sorry to learn, from Mr. Sutton, of the decease of one of our Manchester members. Mr. T. B. M. Dutton, Librarian of the Manchester Athenæum, died on the 6th inst., after a long and painful illness. He had been librarian of the institution for about eighteen years, and was previously an assistant in the Free Public Library at Peel Park, Salford. Some of our members will doubtless remember his friendliness and courtesy in connection with our meeting at Manchester.

MERTHYR TYDVIL.—The six days' poll on the question of adopting the Public Libraries Acts finished at Merthyr Vale on Saturday, May 20th. The total numbers were: For, 294; Against, 826; majority against, 532. The parish of Merthyr is a long and straggling one, and the heaviest vote was in the outlying district of Dowlais, where the "hill men" registered 506 votes "against," and only 11 "for." The entire number of voters is about 2,500, so that the poll was not generally a heavy one.

NEWARK.—The foundation-stone of the Free Library, which has been presented to the inhabitants of Newark by the munificence of Mr. William Gilstrap, of Bury St. Edmunds, a native of the town, was laid by the donor on Whit Monday, May 29th. The Mayor and Corporation, and most of the leading inhabitants were present. After laying the stone, Mr. Gilstrap delivered an address.

OXFORD.—Grants of books have been made by convocation, to the Free Library at Bethnal Green, to the Watford Public Library, and to the Halifax Public Library.—A decree has also been passed, making over to the curators of the Bodleian Library, the rooms hitherto used for examination purposes.

READING.—The New Public Buildings, comprising a Town Hall, Public Free Library and Museum, and Schools for Science and Art, built at a cost of about £60,000, were presented to the Corporation on behalf of the Subscribers, and formally opened, on May 31st, by John Walter, Esq., M.P. The Public Libraries Acts were adopted at Reading on May 17th, 1877. The population of the Borough is 42,000, and the income derived from the rate is about £645. The Library receives a start by a donation of 4,000 volumes. The Library is divided into three rooms by handsome screens of oak and glass from floor to ceiling. The Lending Library is 21 feet by 31 feet, the News-room is 28 feet by 31 feet, and the Reading-room and

Reference Library is 48 feet by 42 feet, each room being 20 feet high. There are also arrangements for ladies' and librarian's rooms.

STAFFORD.—Mr. De' Mazzinghi writes: The Borough of Stafford has recently been organizing a Free Library, both for reference and circulation. Its reading-room for newspapers and periodicals has been open a month or two, and has found favour with the townsmen. The Library has been built upon a site adjoining the New Borough Hall, with which it communicates. Over the reading-room is a room of the same size, containing a museum of natural history, furnished almost entirely by the collection made by the donor, Mr. Wragge, in the course of his travels in different parts of the world. Another donation is that of the Hon. William Littleton's Zulu Collection, made in South Africa, when acting as secretary to Sir Bartle Frere. The room above at the top is appropriated to the School of Art. The Circulating Library is lodged at present in presses occupying one side of the Mayor's dining-room, which has also to accommodate at one end an indicator for 5,000 volumes upon the Wolverhampton principle. Liberal donations have been made, both of books and money, and the lending department will soon be opened. A Reference Library also is lodged in glazed cases occupying a side of the Reading-room. One of these is filled by a useful set of standard works, forming part of the bequest of the late Mr. Hicks Smith, Barrister, to the William Salt Library, which, by arrangement with his representatives, was waived by the Trustees in favour of the Free Library, the William Salt Library being, as is well known, of a very special and indeed unique character, even amongst antiquarian Libraries, and its shelf accommodation appropriated to books of a corresponding kind. The Corporation of Stafford have appointed Mr. Calvert to take charge of the Free Library.

STOCKPORT.—Mr. J. D. Buckland has been appointed Chief Librarian of the Stockport Public Free Library, in succession to Mr. W. H. Greenbough, and has intimated his intention to join the Library Association.

YORK.—The Rev. Canon Raine, the librarian of York Minster Library, recently read a very interesting paper on the Library to a meeting of friends at the house of our Hon. Local Secretary, Mr. W. W. Morrell, which will probably be published shortly by the Yorkshire Archæological Society. The Library is at present admirably conducted, and is open two or three times a week. A few persons pay a subscription of £1 1*s*. annually.

Cornell University now possesses a Library Bulletin similar to that at Harvard, and consisting of a record of the principal accessions, with notes and bibliographical appendices. Among the latter, brief lists of books relating to the German civil services and to Petrarch, drawn up by the Librarian, Prof. Willard Fiske, have already appeared.

The children of the late Mr. T. Crane have erected at Quincy (U.S.) a Public Library building, in memory of their father, at a cost of 40,000 dols.

A part of the numerous MS. collections left by the late Édouard Fournier have been acquired by the Bibliothèque de l'Arsenal, another part relating to the City of Paris is in the hands of the Bibliothèque de la Ville, and the late Baron James de Rothschild secured the remainder.

The *Journal des Savants* for April contains an article on the Cabinet des Manuscrits of the Bibliothèque Nationale.

The sixteenth and last volume, just out, of the new edition of "Correspondance par Grimm, Diderot, etc., revue par M. Tourneux" (which, may be observed, includes an excellent index to the work), contains a long account of the library and papers of Grimm, during and after the Revolution.

In the Supplement to the *Journal de Genève* of April 14, may be read an interesting contribution by M. Eug. Ritter, "Sur les MSS. de J. J. Rousseau, légués à la Bibliothèque Publique de Genève par Mme. Streckeisen-Moulton."

The article "Libraries" in the forthcoming volume of the *Encyclopædia Britannica*, which will soon be published, may be presumed to possess special interest to our readers. Unfortunately the space at the disposal of the writers has necessitated a great deal of compression as well as a great deal of omission. This is especially the case with regard to the chapter on "Library Management," where an endeavour is made to present a succinct but comprehensive view of this much-embracing subject. In the historical portion, the well-known facts relating to ancient and mediæval libraries are re-examined. Modern libraries are treated not so much with a view to write their annals, or to describe their bibliographical rarities, as to show the nature of the work they are accomplishing. The article is followed by elaborate tables, in which much information as to the leading libraries of the world is briefly presented. In the case of the United Kingdom no particular limit of extent is observed, and full justice is done to the Libraries established under the Acts. As regards other countries, it has been necessary to draw the line, except in the case of special collections, at libraries of 30,000 volumes and upwards. The entire number of libraries thus registered amounts to nearly a thousand, and the information has been obtained in nearly every instance direct from the officers of the different libraries enumerated.

LIBRARY CATALOGUES AND REPORTS.

Manchester Public Free Libraries. Catalogue of the Chorlton and Ardwick Branch Lending Library. Second Edition. Manchester, 1882. La. 8vo, pp. viii.–237, hf.-bd.

A catalogue of a collection of 17,500 volumes on the now familiar index system, which was first introduced by the Manchester Free Libraries fifteen years ago.

There are very many references under subjects to the contents of collected works, &c. The printing is in double columns, and in small but readable type.

Manor of Aston Local Board. The Fourth Annual Report of the Free Libraries' Committee. March 26th, 1881, to March 25th, 1882. La. 8vo, pp. 16 and cover.

The new library buildings were opened 4th January, 1882, and the Reference Library and News-room have been much frequented. The issues in the Reference Library, from January 5th to March 25th, were 2,109. The number of volumes is 2,321. In the Lending Department there has been a decrease owing to the withdrawal of the old borrowing cards, the issue for the year being 66,092. The number of volumes in the Lending Department is 5,307. The rate produced £493 8*s.* 5*d.*

Brighton Free Library, Museum, and Picture Gallery. . .Seventh and Eighth Annual Reports. . . during the years 1881–2. . . Brighton, 1882. 8vo, pp. 27.

The date above, "1881–2," should be 1880–1, the reports being for these two latter years. The Reports do not afford much information as to the Library, the Sub-Committee reporting that "The Library continues to be well frequented, as many as 60 readers being usually present in the evening, and the daily number of visitors averaging above 100."

Bristol Museum and Library. Report of Proceedings at the Eleventh Annual Meeting, held 16th February, 1882, with List of Subscribers. 8vo, pp. 29.

The total number of subscribers was 808, and the receipts from subscriptions £11 18*s.* 6*d.*; there being a slight decrease in both sets of figures. The total income was £1,405 15*s.* 9*d.* About 630 volumes have been purchased for the Library. There were 462 subscribers to the "Library alone."

Chester. Fourth Annual Report of the Committee of the Chester Free Public Library, 1881. Chester, 1882. 8vo, pp. 10.

The number of readers on December 31st, 1881, was 995, the issues for the year 38,756. 206 volumes were added during the year, chiefly for the Reference Library now in course of preparation. The rate produced £607 8*s.* 9*d.*, the total income (including balance from previous year of £133 11*s.* 5*d.*) being £814 16*s.* 4*d.*

London. Report of the Committee of the London Library to the Forty-first General Meeting of the Members, May 25th, 1882. London, 1882. 8vo, pp. 8.

There are now 1,712 members, the number having been increased by 44 during the year. The books added in the same period amounted to 3,031 volumes and 130 pamphlets. Annual circulation, 99,231 volumes. The gross receipts (£4,292) and sum spent in buying books (£889) show a slight decrease as compared with last year.

Southport. Atkinson Free Library, Borough of Southport. Seventh Annual Report, 1881–2. Southport. 8vo, pp. 11.

The accessions to the Library for the year were by purchase 692, by donation 266, and the total number of volumes now in the Library is 11,090. 1,260 borrowers' cards have been issued during the year. The issues were in the Lending Department 92,411, in the Reference Library 27,976. It is estimated that 159,172 persons have used the news-room, and 109,829 the reading-room during the year. At the Churchtown Branch a decrease of borrowers and readers is reported. The rate produced £748 17*s.* 9*d.*, and there was a net deficiency on the year's working of £13 7*s.* 6½*d.*

Swansea. Seventh Annual Report of the Public Library and

Gallery of Art Committee, 1880-81. Swansea, November, 1881. 8vo, pp. 25 and cover.

The issues for the year in the Lending Department were at the Central Library and the Morriston Branch 41,241; the decrease on the previous year being attributed to the fact, that no new books have been added for two years, and that there are but 5,456 volumes altogether in the Lending Department. The issues in the Reference Department were 45,106, and the number of volumes in stock 14,524. The rate produced £963 15*s*. The Committee urge the need of new buildings.

York Subscription Library. Appendix to the General Alphabetical Catalogue for the year 1881, with a List of the Officers, etc. York, 1882. 8vo, pp. 20.

The number of volumes circulated was 26,000, and of magazines and reviews over 2,000. The proportion of fiction circulated during one week was as nearly as possible 61·5 per cent. The number of volumes added was 282. The income for the year was £468 5*s*. 5*d*.

The Chairman of the Leamington Free Public Library Committee, in presenting his Annual Report stated that 1,336 volumes had been added to the Library, of which 957 were presented. The receipts for the year were £508 17*s*. 10*d*., and were just balanced by the expenditure. The total number of volumes in the Reference Library was 3,232, in the Lending Department 8,452. The issues were in the former 6,542, in the latter 46,074.

NOTICES OF BIBLIOGRAPHIES.

Vegetable Technology: a contribution towards a bibliography of Economic Botany, with a comprehensive Subject Index. By Benjamin Daydon Jackson, Secretary of the Linnean Society, founded upon the collections of George James Symons. London: Index Society, 1882. 4to, pp. xii.–355.

A companion volume to Mr. Jackson's equally laborious and valuable "Guide to the Literature of Botany." But however useful these works may be to specialists, it is questionable whether the Index Society fulfils its proper object in devoting over 1,000 pages within the course of two years to the subject of botany. The book is unfortunately disfigured with many misprints, and the titles are not always transcribed with bibliographical accuracy.

An Index to Norfolk Topography. By Walter Rye. London: Index Society, 1881. 4to, pp. xxx.-416.

This is undoubtedly of more general interest than the previous volume, and reflects great credit upon the industry of the compiler, who admits the weakness of the bibliographical part.

Gutenberg: was he the Inventor of Printing? An Historical Investigation embodying a Criticism on Dr. Van der Linde's "Gutenberg." By J. H. Hessels. London: B. Quaritch, 1882. (Only 200 copies printed for sale.) 8vo, pp. xxvii.–201. Price £1 1*s*.

Dr. Hessels is still unable to answer the question. Of the three principle documents upon which it rests, one no longer exists, and the other two are only extant in transcripts. Many of the other Gutenberg documents are here shown to be forgeries; the theory of a continuance of his press far into the 16th century is no longer tenable; the remarkable discovery of the fraud in the Darmstadt "Prognostication" removes seven works from the Gutenberg list; and the 42-line Bible, and other books in the same type, must in future be ascribed to

Schoeffer. As early as November 15th, 1454, two printers were at work at Mentz; one *may* have been Johann Gutenberg, the other was *probably* Peter Schoeffer, but there is evidence to show that the latter did not claim to be the first Mentz printer, as in his *Justinianus* of 24th May, 1468, he speaks of two Johannes "librorum insignes prothocaragmatici." One of these must have been Fust, who was the other? He may have been Gutenberg, but there is not sufficient evidence to prove the fact. It will thus be seen that the result of Dr. Hessel's inquiry is somewhat of a negative and disappointing character. But he has produced a scholarly and able book, which, for its critical examination of documentary evidence, and deductions from comparative study of founts of type, is an admirable specimen of exact bibliography as opposed to the feeble gossip which usually passes under the name. The book is dedicated to our president, Mr. Henry Bradshaw, in "testimony . . . of his singularly profound, exact and original knowledge of bibliography and kindred subjects."

A Manual of Historical Literature: comprising brief descriptions of the most Important Histories, in English, French, and German; together with practical suggestions as to methods and courses of Historical Study, for the use of Students, General Readers, and Collectors of Books. By C. Kendall Adams. New York: Harper, 1882. Sm. 8vo, pp. xl.-665. Price 12*s.* 6*d.*

A useful and laborious work, consisting of fourteen chapters, the first being a general introduction, the latest being devoted to the United States. In each chapter the most important works on the subject to which it relates are briefly criticised, and at the end of each chapter are a few suggestions to readers and students. The index is good.

The Reporters arranged and characterised, with incidental remarks. By John William Wallace. Fourth edition, revised and enlarged. Published under the superintendence of Franklin Fiske Heard. Boston: Soule and Bugbee, 1882. 8vo, pp. vi.-654.

We should have noticed this book before, but that we hoped to find room for more than a brief note of it. Originally contributed to an American law magazine, this work, which in its 2nd edition, issued in 1845, filled less than a hundred and fifty pages, has now grown to a portly volume. Its notices of the earlier reporters are not only of interest, but of practical service to the lawyer; and its veteran author has reason to feel that he at least is no longer, in Coke's phrase, "a debtor to his profession." His editor, Mr. Heard, who has come to the aid of the author's failing eyesight, has already done much for legal bibliography.

A Complete Catalogue of Modern Law Books, British, American, and Colonial; with a Selection of such Old Works as are still of value, and Appendices containing Chronological Tables of all the Reports, Statutes, Digests, &c., of the various Countries. Compiled by Herbert G. Sweet; the very full Index of Subjects by John Nicholson, Librarian of the Hon. Society of Lincoln's Inn. London: Henry Sweet, 1882. 8vo, pp. vii.–472.

The Catalogue part of this book is better done, indeed, than the Index, but still leaves much to be desired. As if, nevertheless, his subject was not enough for him, the compiler includes many books that in no way belong to law, such as works on shorthand and politics. Thus he includes two works on political economy. If two, why not more? We observe, indeed, that they are both recent, and both American, so that there may be some occult bookselling reason for including them. The list of abbreviations is altogether too foolish. We hope to return to the "very full Index of Subjects," and for the present will merely say that only great pains and great incompetence could have produced so elaborate and so poor a piece of work. Its compiler has still to learn the very rudiments of classification.

Catalogue of Periodical Literature, Journals, and Transactions of Learned Societies, Issues from Government and Private Presses, Collections; to which are added a Botanical Library, a Scientific Library, and Miscellaneous Books. Offered by B. Quaritch. London: B. Quaritch, 1882. 8vo, pp. iv.-445–807.

Lettered outside "General Catalogue, Pt. III." The index is in treble columns, occupies 42 pages, and is compiled in a very slovenly manner. Some idea of the practical value of the elaborate classification may be obtained from the fact that Freeman's Historical Geography is entered under Historical Collections, and Watt's Bibliotheca under Works on Natural History.

The Two Worlds: Addressed to the Students of the Royal Academy. By J. E. Hodgson, R.A. London: A. Seale [1882]. Sm. 8vo, 16 pp.

An eloquent appeal by the new Librarian of the Royal Academy, in favour of books and literature, and pointing out to students the advantages they enjoy in the well-chosen library of that institution.

Annuaire Bulletin de la Société de l'Histoire de France. Année 1881. Paris: Librairie Renouard, 1881. 8vo, pp. 320. Price, 5*s*.

Contains the usual valuable bibliography of works connected with French history. Among the documents reproduced in the "Séconde partie" are "Documents relatifs à la Bibliothèque du Roi et au Trésor des Chartes (1736–8).

Bibliographie Raisonnée et Pratique. Guide du Libraire-antiquaire et du Bibliophile. Vade Mecum à l'usage de tous ceux qui achètent ou vendent des livres. Par J. de Beauchamps et Ed. Rouveyre. Première livraison. Paris: E. Rouveyre et G. Blond, 1882. 8vo, pp. 16, and Album of 7 plates. Subscription (two monthly parts) 15 frs.

The first part of this periodical, announced in MONTHLY NOTES for May, has now come to hand and very disappointing it is. The literary part merely consists of a list of miscellaneous books likely to tempt the French collector, with notes evidently intended to sell the copies described. The Album comprises facsimiles of a volume with the Pompadour arms, the title page of an *Heures* of 1498, besides representations of the bindings of Capé, Allô and Derome. These are certainly very well reproduced, but are really only illustrated specimens of the books previously mentioned. Altogether, there is an unpleasant flavour of bookselling under false pretences in the new bibliographical journal.

V Annuario delle Biblioteche populari d'Italia dal 1879, in poi. Di Antonio Bruni, con cronica estera. Roma: Ettore Berni, 1882. Sm. 8vo.

Professor Antonio Bruni has been an active worker in the cause of popular education. In 1861 he founded, at Prato, a lending library, for the use of artisans; and, during the last five years, has brought out, annually, this useful little publication, which includes appeals in favour of popular libraries besides a quantity of statistical information respecting them. The 8,300 communes of the Italian peninsula, at present, contain 5,000 of these institutions: France, however, which, in 1867, had only 4,823, now possesses 20,000.

We regret to learn that the proposed scheme for an International Exhibition of the Graphic Arts and Book Manufacture spoken of in the May Number of MONTHLY NOTES has been abandoned. We owe this information to the courtesy of our member, Mr. Grevel, who has just returned from Leipzig.

The April Number of *The Cape Quarterly Review* contains the first of a series of "Notes on Books relating to South Africa," by Mr. George M. Theal.

The June Number of the *Antiquarian Magazine and Bibliographer* contains an account of the bibliography of the "Historia Trojana."

In the supplement issued with Part IV. of the *Western Antiquary*, edited by Mr. W. H. K. Wright, bearing date March, 1882, appears a specimen article of a "Devonshire Bibliography" contributed by the Rev. J. Ingle Dredge, dealing with the works of Theophilus Gale.

The June Number of the *Bibliographer* contains an interesting list by Mr. Edward Smith, of books of travel written by "Foreigners in England," which is disfigured, however, by some ugly misprints. As we have had occasion to observe before, bibliographical lists to be valuable must be thorough, and must above all be accurate. In the last number of the *Bibliographer*, the editor undertook to "arrange in chronological order" a list of some of the chief books on Siberia. The titles were very meagre and inaccurate, and the value of the chronology may be gauged by the fact that the "Jeune Sibérienne" of Xavier de Maistre was assigned to 1878. As many school-girls are aware, de Maistre died in 1852, so that any book issuing from him in 1878 must have been a communication from the spirit-world—and bibliography may begin to rank, not as a "physical," but as a "psychical" science.

CORRESPONDENCE.

Training of Library Assistants.

Sir,—Although the system of apprenticing librarians has been adopted at Newcastle, Worcester, and other places, and was mentioned at the Edinburgh meeting in 1880 when the question was introduced, I am glad to tell "Paterfamilias" that the Association has thus far never recommended that young librarians should be bound over like so many Oliver Twists. I may add, that a report laid before the Gray's Inn Meeting in September last (see Monthly Notes, II., 62–4) indicates the line which a thorough professional training should take. However, the report was "received" on that occasion but not "adopted," whatever the distinction may have been intended to mean, and the whole subject was afterwards referred (see Monthly Notes, II., 74) to a committee, consisting of Messrs. Bradshaw, Mullins, Cowell, and Overall, so that we may now expect to see the matter dealt with in a liberal and comprehensive spirit.

I am, &c.,

Librarian.

London: TRÜBNER & CO., Ludgate Hill.

Single Numbers, Threepence each. Annual Subscription, post free, 3s. 6d.

VOL. 3. No. 8.] [*August* 15, 1882.

BIBLIOTHECA
AUG 1882
BODLEIANA

MONTHLY NOTES

OF THE

Library Association

of the United Kingdom.

Contents:—Official Notices—August Monthly Meeting—Report of the Council—Treasurer's and Auditors' Report—Report on Size-Notation—"The Editor's Report"—Library Notes—Library Catalogues and Reports—Notices of Bibliographies, &c.

THE September Monthly Meeting will, of course, be absorbed in the Annual Meeting at Cambridge, which will be held on Tuesday, the 5th of September, and three following days. The sittings will be held in the beautiful Hall of King's College, which, together with the Combination Rooms, has been kindly placed by the College authorities at the disposal of our President, Mr. Henry Bradshaw. The Cambridge Union Society also have been good enough to offer the Association the free use of their very convenient rooms during the period of the Meeting.

Papers are expected from our Cambridge members on the following subjects:—The Cambridge Libraries in 1710, by the Rev. Professor Mayor; On Mediæval Libraries, by Mr. J. W. Clark; On the Spread of Books in Early Times, by Mr. Eirikr Magnusson; On the Trinity College Library, by Rev. Robert Sinker, as well as accounts of other College Libraries to be visited.

Other papers already promised are:—On the Printing of the British Museum Catalogue, by Mr. R. Garnett; On Librarianship as a Profession, by Mr. H. R. Tedder; On Early Book Fairs, by Mr. Cornelius Walford; On Public Historiography and Printing, by Mr. James Yates; "Who Spoils our Books?" by Mr. Henry Stevens; On the Cataloguing of Journals and Transactions, by Mr. H. B. Wheatley; and On Binding, by Mr. F. T. Barrett and Mr. J. Y. W. MacAlister.

The Committees which have been appointed during the year

will present reports on the important questions of the Training of Library Assistants, Size-Notation, and on Illustrations to our Cataloguing Rules. In view of the discussion upon the latter Report, it has been thought desirable to reprint the Cataloguing Rules with corrections. A Report will also be presented on the Answers received to the Binding Circular issued by the Council last year.

The Council give notice that they will propose at the Annual Meeting the following Amendments to the Constitution:—

In Article 6 to strike out the clause "Provided that the number of persons so elected shall never exceed two-fifths of the whole number of subscribing members."

In Article 11 to insert the words "two years" in the room of the last two words, "one year."

The Treasurer has given notice of his intention to move the following Amendment:—

In Article 4 to strike out the words "and such subscription shall be invested by the Council on behalf of the Association."

The Secretaries have received the following notices of motions intended to be proposed at the Annual Meeting:—

From Mr. E. B. Nicholson, Bodley's Librarian:—"That this Association is in favour of the general principle of opening public libraries, museums, and art-galleries for some part, at least, of every Sunday; though particular local circumstances may sometimes render the present application of this principle useless or undesirable."

From Mr. F. T. Barrett, Librarian of the Mitchell Library, Glasgow:—"That the Council be requested to draw up for the consideration of the Annual Meeting of 1883 a scheme for the classification of books in a library."

It is understood that Mr. Thomas will announce at the next meeting of Council that the pressure of his other duties and engagements will make it impossible for him to seek re-election to the office of Secretary at the Cambridge Meeting.

AUGUST MONTHLY MEETING.

The eleventh Monthly Meeting of the fifth year of the Association was held at the London Institution on Friday, August 4th, at 8 p.m., Mr. B. R. Wheatley, V.P., in the chair.

The Minutes of the last Meeting having been read and confirmed, it was announced that Mr. Robert Bowes, a Member of the Free Library Committee, Cambridge, had joined the Association.

The following gentleman, having been duly proposed and seconded at the previous Meeting, was unanimously elected a

Member of the Association: Mr. J. E. LIDDIARD, West Hill Lodge, Hastings. The following gentlemen were duly proposed and seconded for election at the next Meeting:—Mr. T. D. HALLEY; and Mr. J. F. L. MABIN, 170, Union Street, Plymouth. The Meeting then adjourned.

GENERAL REPORT OF THE COUNCIL FOR THE YEAR 1881-1882.

THE Council have the pleasure of presenting to the Members their Report on the work and progress of the Association for the fifth year of its existence.

At the close of the first lustrum of our activity it is not unnatural to look back with the view of measuring the work that has been done and the progress that has been achieved. So far, at least, as the preliminary labour is concerned of attracting to us the leading librarians of the country and the most zealous friends of Libraries, we have every reason to congratulate ourselves. The accessions to our ranks have steadily continued, so that while at the date of the Oxford Meeting our Members numbered 180, at Manchester 229, at Edinburgh 286, at London, last year, 336, they now number, on the eve of our Fifth Annual Meeting, no less than 368, to which number we may reasonably expect some addition at Cambridge.

The Council think our Members will agree with them, that no small service has been rendered to the cause of Libraries by the bringing together of so many persons interested in their efficient working and prosperity. The opportunities of intercourse afforded by the Association, particularly by its Annual Meetings, have done much to develop, and may almost claim to have created, a real *esprit de corps* among the Librarians of the United Kingdom.

The Monthly Meetings of the Association have been regularly kept up, and on the whole have perhaps been as successful as could be expected, when it is remembered that, from considerations of time and space, we can rarely be favoured at these Meetings with the company of our country members, and that the number of working London members is smaller than it should be. Nevertheless, the Monthly Meetings have done good service in several ways, and have called forth a fair number of interesting papers.

It is, however, to our Annual Meetings that we must look for the most vigorous and active expression of the vital energies of the Association, and the Council feel that they are thoroughly justified in congratulating the Association on the invariable and even increasing success of their annual gatherings. The idea expressed by many members some time ago that biennial or even triennial meetings would prove sufficient, may be taken, for the present, at all events, to have been effectually dispelled.

The Council think that they are also entitled to look with some degree of complacency upon the records and memorials of the

Annual Meetings in the shape of the handsome series of our *Transactions and Proceedings*. At the same time they cannot help feeling that if these expensive volumes are to be continued, it should be our object as time goes on to increase the amount of matter of permanent interest and value appearing in these volumes, while matter of more temporary interest and of less literary value might well be published in the MONTHLY NOTES, now that they have been enlarged.

Besides the numerous important papers contributed to these volumes, or published in the MONTHLY NOTES, the work done by Special Committees may perhaps claim a high degree of practical importance. The Council need not here do more than recapitulate the subjects that have been thus dealt with. During the five years Committees have been appointed from time to time on the following subjects:—A General Catalogue of English Literature; On Mr. Poole's Index to Periodical Literature; On Title-Entries; On Size-Notation; On Indicators; On Library Statistics; On the Training of Library Assistants; On Illustrations to our Cataloguing Rules; and on Binding. While the labours of these Committees have in some cases already borne fruit in actual accomplishment, or in the formation of opinion, in other cases a final issue has not yet been reached, though even in these the work done by the Committees will doubtless have its due share in contributing to ultimate results.

Of the steps which have been taken by the Council during the last three years toward the establishment of a journal which should be worthy of the Association and of the important Library interests and activities of the United Kingdom, the Council propose to speak in another part of this Report, and they will conclude this brief survey of the work of the first five years of our existence with the expression of their hope that the work done during the next five years may be not less zealous and energetic, and that it may be even more fruitful of valuable and enduring results.

London Meeting.—The Annual Meeting held last year in London, under circumstances which it can hardly be necessary for the Council here to recall, was not less successful than previous meetings. Although there was not the same kind of attractions offered as at such leading provincial centres as Edinburgh, Manchester and Oxford, the interest exhibited by our members in the domestic affairs of the Association was not by any means relaxed, and the interest of the London meeting may be said to have been thoroughly sustained. The amount of business in the programme induced the Council to arrange for a four-days' meeting, instead of the usual three days, a precedent which it is proposed to follow this year at Cambridge. In the unhappy loss of the late Mr. Coxe's presence, the Council were fortunate in securing the services of the distinguished lawyer, Mr. J. A. Russell, Q.C., who, as Master of the Library of Gray's Inn, very fitly presided at the meeting which was held in the historic hall of the Honourable Society.

Monthly Meetings.—By the kind permission of the Board of

Management of the London Institution, the use of their Committee-room for our meetings has been continued to us, and the Council hereby offer them, on behalf of the Association, warm thanks for this courtesy. One monthly meeting and several Council meetings have been held at Gray's Inn by the courteous permission of the Treasurer of the Society, to whom also the Council offer hearty thanks. Eleven monthly meetings have been held during the year. The papers read at these meetings have, for the most part, been printed in the MONTHLY NOTES. They have been as follows:—

At the Fourth Meeting for the year (Jan. 6) a paper was read by Mr. J. Ballinger, librarian of the Doncaster Free Library, entitled "Jottings from my Note-book."

At the Fifth Meeting (Feb. 3) a paper was read by Mr. E. C. Thomas, entitled "Professor Dziatzko on the British Museum."

At the Sixth (March 3) and Seventh (April 6) Meetings the adjourned Discussion upon Mr. Thomas's paper was continued, in the course of which two letters from Professor Dziatzko were read. At the Sixth Meeting Mr. Alfred Cotgreave, librarian of the Free Public Library, Richmond, exhibited his "Long-Reacher."

At the Eighth Meeting (May 5) a paper was read by Mr. Andrew Taylor, treasurer of the Edinburgh Subscription Library, entitled "Present-day Limits to Public Subscription Libraries."

At the Ninth Meeting (June 2) a paper was read by Mr. E. C. Thomas, entitled "Library Statistics of Europe."

Committees.—At the October Monthly Meeting, committees were appointed to consider and report on the following subjects: Size-Notation; The Training of Library Assistants; and On the Preparation of Illustrations to the Cataloguing Rules adopted at the last Annual Meeting. Reports from these Committees will be laid before the Association at Cambridge. At the October Council Meeting, a sub-committee of the council was appointed to consider the question of a Journal for the Association, and they prepared a report, which was printed by order of the Council in the number of MONTHLY NOTES for last December (vol. ii., pp. 97—99). Recently the Council have appointed a small sub-committee, consisting of Mr. Tedder and the secretaries, to digest the answers received in reply to the Binding Circular issued last year, and to report to them in time for the Cambridge Meeting. The Council, therefore, confine themselves here to an expression of their regret that the communications received in response to the very large number of circulars sent out have been so few.

Obituary.—We have lost several Members by death during the past year. The death of Major-General Stewart Allan was a loss to us and a still greater loss to the Free Public Library at Richmond. He was a Member of the Committee of that Institution, and his knowledge of books and willing spirit had been of great assistance to it. Mr. H. J. Adams, a publisher and a lover of literature, had not long been a Member of our Association, but took a great interest in our proceedings, and, if he had been spared,

might have been of considerable service to us. The death of Mr. T. B. M. Dutton removed from our ranks a working librarian, who was characterised by great energy and conscientiousness. He received his early training in the oldest of our Free Public Libraries — that of Salford — and was afterwards, for eighteen years, librarian of the Manchester Athenæum. Many of our Members will remember his modest and courteous demeanour at our meeting in Manchester. Even while this Report is being prepared, the Council have been distressed to hear of the sudden death of one of our most distinguished members—Professor W. Stanley Jevons. Professor Jevons, who was present at our Oxford Meeting, in 1878, and was for some time a Member of the Council, has always exhibited the liveliest interest in the affairs of the Association, and in the working of Free Public Libraries. He was also much interested in the question of establishing an English Library Journal, and, probably, the last piece of work which he was destined to finish was the preparation of the valuable "List of Selected Books in Political Economy," which appeared in the July number of MONTHLY NOTES. The Council believe that Dr. Jevons intended to be present at the Cambridge Meeting, and they had even some reason to hope that he would have contributed a paper to our proceedings. They feel sure that they will have the sympathy of every Member of the Association in asking the Cambridge Meeting to express their regret at the loss they have thus sustained, and their condolence with the bereaved family of the lamented Professor.

Members.—There has been a net increase of 32 members since the last Report of the Council, and the total number upon our roll is 368, of whom 30 are Honorary Members. Of the 338 subscribing members the number known to us to be actually engaged in library administration as librarians or members of library committees, amounts to 206. As two-fifths of 338 is 135, and as the number of non-librarians now amounts to 132, the Council propose to invite the serious attention of the Cambridge Meeting to the desirability of reconsidering Article 6 of the Constitution. Of the subscribing members 17 are Life Members. During the year the number of Honorary Members has been increased by the election of Mr. Edward Edwards, Professor Carl Dziatzko, and Count Ugo Balzani.

The number of Libraries represented in the Association, without including branches, now reaches the considerable figure of 179.

Officers.—The Council are glad to take this opportunity of acknowledging the valuable services rendered to the Association by the Treasurer and the Secretaries, and they tender their warmest thanks for such services.

Finance.—The Treasurer's balance-sheet shows our gross income for the year, to August 8th, to have been £219 10*s.* 3*d.*, and the expenditure £68 19*s.* 8*d.* It must be borne in mind, however, that against this apparently large balance has to be set the cost of the London volume, which it has been found impossible by the

Secretaries to issue within the year, as well as other outstanding accounts. It will be seen from the Auditors' statement of Assets and Liabilities that the Association is not too rich, and the question how to increase our income still occupies the attention of the Council from time to time.

Library Journal and *Monthly Notes.*—The publication of the *Library Journal* has been continued, and the Council were glad to learn that, in its altered form, and under Mr. Cutter's able editorship, it has ceased to be a source of anxiety to its publisher. It still remained nominally our "official organ," but under the changed circumstances due to our new publishing arrangements, the advantages of the connection were reduced to a minimum; and, accordingly, in May, Mr. C. A. Cutter formally requested to be allowed to drop from the title of the *Library Journal* the words in which it imports to be our official organ. The Council were of opinion that no other course was open to them but to assent to Mr. Cutter's proposal. They are, at the same time, anxious to recognise the service rendered to us by the editors and publisher of the *Journal*, and they will ask the Cambridge Meeting to pass a formal resolution on the subject.

During the present year, our own publication, MONTHLY NOTES, has been largely extended in scope and size, and the Council have good reason to believe that these improvements, and especially the development of the bibliographical matter, have been welcomed and appreciated by the Members of the Association. This satisfactory result is entirely due to the devotion and ability of Mr. Thomas, who has undertaken the duties of Editor, in addition to his services as Secretary, and, at a recent meeting of the Council, the following resolution was unanimously passed:—

Resolved: "That the best thanks of the Council be given to Mr. E. C. Thomas, for the care and ability which he has displayed as Hon. Editor of MONTHLY NOTES." The Council are sure that in discharging this debt of gratitude, they have the cordial support of the Association at large.

The arrangements with Messrs. Trübner for the publication of MONTHLY NOTES, will end with the close of the present year, and cannot be continued. Under all the circumstances the Council, after full consideration, have arrived at the conclusion that it is desirable to incorporate the present publications—viz. the annual volume of TRANSACTIONS and the MONTHLY NOTES, into a single monthly journal, and they recommend this course for the adoption of the present meeting.

Cambridge Meeting.—The Council cannot conclude this Report without some reference to the exertions of those of our members, and of the other Cambridge residents, who have formed an active and influential Local Committee. The large measure of success, which is confidently anticipated at our Annual Meeting this year, will be entirely due to their efforts, and the Council cannot refain from tendering their heartiest thanks to each of them, and in particular to our eminent and accomplished President.

STATEMENT OF THE PECUNIARY AFFAIRS OF THE LIBRARY ASSOCIATION OF THE UNITED KINGDOM, from September 6th, 1881, to August 8th, 1882.

Receipts.	£	s.	d.
Balance brought forward	25	19	2
7 Life Subscriptions	36	15	0
Annual Subscriptions :—			
For 1879–80, 14 at 10*s.* 6*d.*	7	7	0
1880–81, 100 at 10*s.* 6*d.*	52	10	0
1881–82, 172 at 10*s.* 6*d.*	90	6	0
1882–83, 3 at 10*s.* 6*d.*	1	11	6
Hon. Soc. of Gray's Inn	1	1	0
	152	15	6
Interest on deposit	1	2	7
Subscriptions to *Monthly Notes*, 26 at 2*s.*	2	12	0
Library Statistics sold	0	6	0
	219	10	3

Payments.	£	s.	d.
Whittingham and Co., balance for Printing Volume of Proceedings at Edinburgh	31	1	0
Editor of *Monthly Notes*, 1881	20	0	0
Stationery and Postage Stamps	17	18	8
	68	19	8
Balance at Bankers 87 8 0			
Do. in P.O. Savings Bank 63 2 7			
	150	10	7
	219	10	3

(Signed) ROBERT HARRISON, *Treasurer.*

Examined and compared with the Books and Vouchers, and found to be correct,

8th August, 1882.

(Signed) { J. W. BONE / WM. BRACE } *Auditors.*

Assets.				£	s.	d.
Balance at Bankers				87	8	0
Balance in P. O. Savings Bank				63	2	7
						150 10 7
Subscriptions in arrear :—						
4 yrs. each from	8	Members		16	16	0
3 „ „	15	„		23	12	6
2 „ „	29	„		30	9	0
1 „ „	66	„		34	13	0
						105 10 6
(Some of these are considered doubtful by the Treasurer.)						
						256 1 1

Liabilities.	£	s.	d.
Estimated cost of the Volume of Proceedings at London, 1881	60	0	0
Estimated cost of the Volume of Proceedings at Cambridge, 1882	60	0	0
Estimated cost of Printing, Stationery, &c., for the Meeting at Cambridge	35	0	0
Estimated cost of Corrections of *Monthly Notes* for 1881, Printing and Correcting for 1882, provision for accounts outstanding and subscriptions in arrear not recoverable	95	0	0
3 Subscriptions for 1882–3	1	11	6
	251	11	6
Balance	4	9	7
	256	1	1

(Signed) ROBERT HARRISON, *Treasurer.*

(Signed) { J. W. BONE / WM. BRACE } *Auditors.*

REPORT ON SIZE NOTATION.

In making their Report, the Committee on Size Notation do not consider it necessary to recapitulate the details of the attempts of the previous Committees of the Association to formulate Schemes of Notation, or of the discussions to which their consideration gave rise. These will be found described in the volumes of the Transactions, as follows:—

The First Report, which contains the three systems proposed by the American Library Association, C. Madeley and B. R. Wheatley, occurs at p. 11 of the Manchester volume of the Transactions (Second Annual Meeting), the discussion at p. 103, and some supplementary statements in the Appendix at p. 133.

Another proposal is made in the Edinburgh volume (Third Annual Meeting) as a portion of the Report of the Committee on Title Entries. At the last Annual Meeting of the Association in London, when the motion for the adoption of this proposal was brought forward, two amendments were moved, which, together with the original motion, were successively negatived by small majorities, and the matter was thus left open to be reconsidered *de novo*.

Subsequently to this, at the First Monthly Meeting in October, a motion was carried for the appointment of another Committee on the subject, to consist of Messrs. Bullen, Garnett, B. R. Wheatley, Tedder, and Knapman, and the two Secretaries, to which the name of Mr. E. B. Nicholson was subsequently added.

The object of the new Committee has been to construct a scheme from those already proposed, which, in giving a nearly exact definition of size in height, should interfere as little as possible with the nomenclature of the past, and, if practicable, should solve the difficulty of a combination of size and signature-notation in one plan.

They have had to consider what are the chief errors in the notation of our predecessors which require a remedy, and it seems to them that they have consisted more in a deficient than in an excessive use of such terms as they possessed, and in a want of exactitude in their application:—

1. One error has been a frequent confounding of folios and quartos, or of quartos and octavos, in the cataloguing of the earlier printed books, owing to cropt copies of the former, in either case, simulating the sizes of the latter.

2. A large number of small 8° books have been usually described as 12°.

3. 12° and 18° have been frequently confounded with each other.

4. Octavos, quartos, and folios of all sizes have been merely so denominated, without any modifying terms to define varieties differing several inches in height.

The error first mentioned can be easily remedied by strict observance of the fact that the paper in folios and octavos has perpendicular—and in quartos, horizontal—wire or water lines. The-

other errors can all be avoided by greater attention to exactitude in noticing both size and signature.

Some differences of opinion have rendered it necessary to leave the question open on one point, by an alternative adoption of two forms of nomenclature, viz., either the use of the term *large*, or of its equivalents, *imperial* and *royal*, the argument for the former being a reduction in the number of terms used in the table; that for the latter, that they are sizes well-known to, and used by, librarians, and tolerably well understood by the literary public, and in that respect differ from the numerous technical terms of the smaller-sized papers in each form, which for library purposes it is desirable to ignore.

When it is considered that a system of size notation for ordinary catalogues should be one that can be made to fit the varieties of size which have been in use in this and other countries during four centuries, the subject can well be understood to be full of difficulties. The Committee, after making experiments on both old and modern books, desire to offer the table at the close of this Report as an attempt at a solution of these difficulties.

The exact naming of book sizes according to the number of leaves to a signature is an impossibility. No stress must be laid on the supposition that the alterations in size of machine-made papers have been the cause of this difficulty of adhering to the old signature notation, for the variation in number of leaves to signature in the smaller sizes made it as difficult to follow strictly signature notation in the olden time as in our own. These varieties have arisen from the different systems of *quiring* and *gathering*, from the adoption of *insets*, and from the printing on one-third, one-half, or two-thirds of the full sheet, and thus the leaves to signatures instead of following the supposed normal rule of 2 to folio, 4 to 4°, 8 to 8°, and 12 to 12°, are often as follows :—

In f°, the leaves to signatures run in *twos*, *fours*, *sixes*, and *eights*.

In 4° they are in *fours*, *sixes*, *and eights*.

In the larger octavos they are often in *fours*, though the width is less than three-fourths. In other octavos they are usually in *eights*, but half-sheet books occur in *fours*.

In 12° they are in *sixes* or *twelves*.

In 16° they are in *eights* or *sixteens*.

In 18° they are in *sixes* or *twelves*.

In 24° they are in *sixes* or *twelves*.

In 32° they are in *eights* or *sixteens*.

Among the above anomalies the chief trouble met with in old books is the occurrence of works in eights in many differing sizes, and the consequent adoption of the term 8° by purists in cataloguing for all such books, though they may vary to the extent of five inches in height. To say a book is an 8° because it has eight leaves to a signature, is simply to close the question at once without attempting the solution of the difficulties surrounding size notation. Books in eights are of all sizes from the 48° to the folio. But though in any attempt at a system of size-notation, we must give up this signa-

ture rule of eight, the Committee think the names of these smaller *eights* should bear an affinity to the term, and be called according to the diminution of their size in even multiples of eight (16 and 32), while books in *twelves* should run in the multiples of six, (12, 18, 24). The use of the term 16° for all old books of the 16° height in *eights*, can be modified when they are of the broad form by the term *square* being prefixed.

Though a perfect regularity of gradation in a table of sizes, is an object worth attaining, yet, as it interferes with actual fact, the filling up of the scheme by intervals of half an inch between the terms has alone been attempted.

The smaller sizes given embrace the demy-size measurements within each term, and allow for slight varieties in the other paper sizes, for those in papers of modern makers no longer trammelled by the hand-made paper measurements, and for the changes of size usually developed under the manipulations of the binder.

The notation of the table will be found to suit books of all times and of all countries, and it is believed would contribute to the drawing closer of the agreement between size-and-signature-notation; as by noting both the height of the book and the number of leaves following the signature, an appropriate term for every size will be found in the table.

The Committee recommend that the table be printed on a card with the explanation at its back, and circulated among the members of the Association.

Explanation of the Table of Sizes.

The table embraces all the sizes of books, in steps of half-inches from each other from 48° to imperial folio (23 in.), and also includes a term for the largest folios (about 30 in.). In verifying the sizes of the smaller books it is necessary to give especial attention to the question of their being in the *eights* or in the *twelves* series.

Sizes slightly differing from those given, *i.e.* being between the terms, are to have the one applied to them to which their height is nearest; all cut and bound books thus between two sizes being called by the larger, and all uncut books by the smaller term nearest them.

The measurement of the paper, not of the binding-cover is to be taken.

The width in all 4° books, and of other small books denominated *square* is above $\frac{3}{4}$, *i.e.* $\frac{4}{5}$ of the height, and the width of other books (the usual shape) from $\frac{2}{3}$ to $\frac{3}{4}$ of their height. Oblong-shaped books are to be so designated in addition to f°, 4°, 8°, &c., according to their relative size. The modifications, *la.*, *imp.*, *roy.*, and *sm.*, are not applied to sizes below 8° as being of infrequent occurrence or slight variation, but if on identifying by size and signature, a book cannot otherwise be truthfully described, they can be used.

With regard to books of the usual width, about 10 or 11 inches

high, those of the preceding centuries should usually be described as small folios, but those of the present, and perhaps the latter part of the last century, as large, or royal and imperial octavos.

In early printed books, and in all bibliographical curiosities, it is advisable that actual measurement should be given in addition to the nominal size-signature notation of the table.

Inlaid and stilted books are to have both real and factitious sizes noted.

TABLE OF SIZES OF BOOKS.

	Notation.	Height in Inches.	Width.	Leaves to Signature.	Wire line in laid or hand made Papers.
Folio.	Atlas f°..... (1)	Circa 30	⅔ to ¾	In twos, fours, sixes and eights.	Perpendicular.
	La. f° or Imp. f°..... (5)	21½–23			
	La. f° or Roy. f°..... (5)	18½–21			
	F°..... (2)	13½–18			
	Sm. f°..... (3, 4)	8½–13			
Quarto.	La. 4° or Imp. 4°... (5)	13½–16	½	In fours, sixes, and eights.	Horizontal.
	La. 4° or Roy. 4°... (5)	11½–13			
	4°..... (2)	9½–11			
	Sm. 4°..... (3)	7½–9			
Octavo et infra.	La. 8° or Imp. 8°... (5)	10½–11	⅔ to ¾	In eights, and sometimes fours	Perpendicular.
	La. 8° or Roy. 8°... (5)	9½–10	,,	,,	,,
	8°..... (2)	8–9	,,	In eights.....	,,
	Sm. 8°..... (3)	6½–7½	,,	,, ...	,,
	12°.....		,,	In sixes and twelves	Horizontal.
	16°..... (6)	5½–6	⅔ to ¾	In eights and sixteens.....	Horizontal and Perpendicular.
	18°.....		⅔ to ¾	In sixes, twelves and eighteens	Horizontal.
	24°.....	4-5	,,	In sixes and twelves	Perpendicular.
	32°.....		,,	In eights and sixteens	,,
	48° or m°..... (7)	under 4	,,		

1. Including "elephant," "columbia," &c.
2. Including "medium," "demy" and "crown."
3. Including "copy," "post," "foolscap" and "pot."
4. Of preceding centuries.
5. Of this century.
6. Including sq. 16°, and all books of this size, in eights.
7. Including 48°, 64°, &c. "Minimo" for the smallest books.

"THE EDITOR'S REPORT."

At a time when the other officers of the Association are rendering an account of their stewardship, and when the sound of Reports is heard in the land, it will not be thought unreasonable that the Editor also should turn his thoughts backwards, and survey the work done in connection with Monthly Notes during the past six or seven months.

In the first place, we think that we may fairly claim to have shown that the fear entertained by some of our members that there would be a difficulty in finding sufficient material to justify the enlargement effected at the beginning of the year, was not well-founded. On the contrary, the pressure upon our space has, in fact, been so great that, upon three occasions (not including the present number), it has been found desirable to issue an extra number of pages.

The matter which has hitherto appeared has naturally been largely confined to libraries and librarianship. The library news which has been published has been supplied at first-hand by librarians themselves, and, in most cases, by members of our own Association. The Editor has also endeavoured to make brief notices of library catalogues and reports a main feature in these pages, and already, in the course of the present year, has published summaries of over fifty library reports, some of which are not issued in print, and the great majority of which have not been noticed in any other general organ.

We may claim also to have done something for bibliography, although, of course, the space which can be devoted to this branch of our work is severely limited. In this space, however, we have presented to our members a considerable body of current bibliographical news, and have noticed, briefly, indeed, yet we hope not unusefully, a very large number of important new bibliographical publications, of which nine-tenths probably, or, at all events, seven-eighths, have not been noticed in any other English periodical—literary or bibliographical.

The few papers which we have been able to print here, in addition to those read at the Monthly Meetings, are probably too freshly in the minds of our readers to need recalling. To the last of them, Professor Jevons's List of Books on Political Economy, the sad death of its amiable and distinguished author, alas! lends an additional and melancholy interest.

If so much has been done in the limited space, and with the limited resources, which are all that the Association can at present place at the disposal of its Editor, there ought surely to be no doubt or misgiving as to the greater work that could be accomplished with increased material resources. It is not for the Editor to discuss here the financial or practical aspects of the question. But he may venture to assert, from the experience of the past few months, that, if the material means can be found, the Association may safely rely upon its members to do what they can to render the publication worthy, in a practical and in a literary sense, of the important interests which the Association has in its charge.

The Editor has, in conclusion, the agreeable duty of renewing his acknowledgments to those gentlemen who have assisted him. One of our members, in particular, has undertaken in effect the entire direction of the bibliographical department. To Messrs. Cowell, Haggerston and Tedder, the NOTES are indebted for

longer articles, while the list of those who have contributed various items of information is too long to be included here. To one and all of these gentlemen the Editor offers his warm acknowledgments. ED.

LIBRARY NOTES.

DUNFERMLINE.—It is announced that Lord Rosebery will visit Dunfermline shortly, in order to preside at the opening of the Free Library.

EDINBURGH.—Negotiations have been going on for a year in reference to the union of the Select Subscription Library with the Edinburgh Subscription Library, in the course of which proposals of absorption were also received from the Philosophical Institution and the Literary Institute. These have now been concluded, and, on the 27th of July it was unanimously resolved to dissolve the Edinburgh Select Subscription Library, and to dispose of the books and other property. Mr. A. Buchan, S.S.C., and Mr. Andrew Taylor, were appointed liquidators. As the catalogue of the Subscription Library is nearly identical with that of the Select Subscription Library, the collection of books will not be altogether lost to the city. At the same time, the liquidators have a valuable collection of books to dispose of. They can sell either by public auction or private contract, and an official announcement on the subject will be found at the end of the present issue of MONTHLY NOTES.

HIGH WYCOMBE.—The Fancy Fair held for the benefit of the Library Endowment Fund on the 18th, 19th, and 20th of July, was a very great success. A very full and interesting report of the proceedings appears in the *South Bucks Free Press* for July 21st; and in the *Lady's Pictorial* for July 29th will be found a series of sketches illustrating the Fancy Fair, including a fair likeness of Mr. J. O. Griffits, Q.C., the distinguished Founder of the Library, as Roger Ascham. We are glad to learn further that the very considerable amount of £1,431, was realised, after defraying the expenses. Less than £400 is now required, we believe, to complete the proposed Endowment Fund of £3,000. We heartily congratulate Mr. Griffits on the success that has attended his public-spirited efforts on behalf of his native town.

HULL.—A meeting to promote the establishment of a Free Library at Hull was held on July the 28th, the chair being taken by the Mayor, who was supported by Mr. C. H. Wilson, M.P., Dr. A. K. Rollit, and others.

OXFORD.—BODLEIAN LIBRARY.—The library having acquired the old examination schools, now occupies every floor of the quadrangle, and one of the old schools is already being shelved for 40,000 vols. The "Curators'" or "Clarendon" room has also been handsomely fitted up: all incunabula will probably be trans-

ferred to it, and arranged as a guide to the early history of printing. Open shelves, to contain all the bibliography (by subjects), have been erected in Duke Humphrey's reading-room; the reference collection attached to this room will also be revised and extended shortly. A new select library is being formed in the open cases in the Camera, and will be completed before term. Accession lists of new foreign purchases, and of the most interesting purchases of old works, will be posted in both reading-rooms. The 723 vols. of the catalogue are being paged, and an officer will be employed for some years to come in revising all headings and titles, and indexing all extensive articles. For accessions, the cataloguing rules of the L.A.U.K. will be adopted, with only such modifications as are essential to the catalogue; the practicability of introducing print will also be considered. The sorting of the spare set of slips which are to form a subject-catalogue, is being rapidly expedited by a special extra staff; whether they shall be laid down in volumes or on cards is undecided. The long-designed classified rearrangement of the library will be carried out (as intended) by first arranging the slips relating to a subject, and then bringing the books on it into a corresponding order. University College has transferred to the library, as a deposit, its collection of 185 vols. of MSS. A rough list of more than 1,200 Oxford-published books not in the library has been compiled, and very many have been already obtained. Half-morocco binding has been substituted for half-calf, and a new cheap binding for tracts, &c.—paper boards with parchment back—has been devised. All printed volumes containing several distinct works (not being homogeneous tracts) are now broken up on rebinding.

NOTTINGHAM.—FREE PUBLIC LIBRARIES.—A Children's Library is about to be formed in connection with these Libraries, in a room in close proximity to the University College. Mr. Samuel Morley, M.P., has given £250 towards its establishment, and it is expected to be in full operation in the course of a few weeks.

PRESTON.—FREE LIBRARY AND MUSEUM.—The Harris trustees have resolved to make an application to the Court of Chancery for an additional £10,000, in order to erect and complete the new Free Library and Museum at Preston, in accordance with the plans of Mr. Hibbert, architect of the town. The £10,000 referred to will make the total sum applicable for the building of the Free Library, &c., over £70,000, granted by the Harris trustees, and added to the other money voted by the same trustees for endowment and the purchase of reference books, &c., will make a sum total of £100,000 which the trustees have voted for the purposes of these combined institutions. The foundation stone will be laid, with full masonic honours, by the Duke of Albany, on the 4th of September, during the Preston Guild festivities.

WARRINGTON.—MUSEUM AND LIBRARY.—The Library has recently received a bequest, from the late Dr. Kendrick, of one hundred volumes, to be selected from his books. Miss Kendrick has also

presented to the Museum a collection of ecclesiastical and mediæval seals, and of impressions of medals and engraved gems made by her late father.

The judgments in the Court of Appeal, in the case of *The Queen* v. *The Wimbledon Local Board*, in which it was decided that the common law right of the ratepayers, at a meeting called to consider the adoption of the Libraries Acts, to demand a poll, was not taken away by those Acts, will be found reported in the *Law Reports*, 8 Q. B. D., 459; and in 51 *Law Journal Reports*, p. 219.

The philosophical and scientific books (about 2,000 volumes) of the late Mr. G. H. Lewes have been presented by his representatives to the trustees of Dr. Williams' Library, on the condition that the collection should be arranged separately for the use of students.

The *Palatine Note-Book* for August contains a catalogue of the library of Sir Thomas Holcroft, at Vale Royal, in Cheshire, in 1616, which included some of the MSS. of the monastery of that place.

The Cotgreave Indicator has been adopted for the new Public Libraries which are now in course of erection at Newport, Mon., and Dunfermline.

The degree of LL.D. has been conferred by the North-western University, upon our Honorary Member, Mr. W. F. Poole, of Chicago.

The *Annales du Bibliophile Belge* for June publishes an interesting list of the books of Henry II. of Navarre, according to an inventory of the Château de Pau, bearing date 1533.

We are glad to learn that Messrs. Castellani and Podestà have been honourably acquitted by the Italian courts of the accusation, under which they have so long lain, of neglect of their duties at the Biblioteca Vittorio Emanuele of Rome. The terms in which the verdict has been delivered implicate gravely the trustworthiness of the Committee of Enquiry of two years ago, when so many serious charges, which now turn out to have been entirely groundless, were made against several important officials.

The Abbate P. A. Serassi, who died in 1791, devoted his whole life to collecting printed and MS. materials for a life of Tasso. His interesting collection, which is now at Bergamo, is described in an article of the *Archivio Storico Lombardo* of last March, where may also be seen an account of the historical archives of Mantua and of the Gonzaga family.

The *Archivio Veneto* (tomo xxii., p. 2) contains an article on the Biblioteca Capitolare of Verona.

Schalich-Effendi has been nominated director of the libraries of Constantinople, and has begun to compile a general catalogue of books and MSS., among which many rarities are already said to have been discovered.

LIBRARY CATALOGUES AND REPORTS.

Catalogue of additions to the Manuscripts in the British Museum in the years 1876 to 1881. [Edited by E. Maunde Thompson.] London: B. Quaritch, 1882. La. 8vo, pp. 616. Price 15s.

2,188 MSS., over 2,300 charters, 2,800 detached seals, and five papyri are described in this volume. The index occupies 260 pages.

Catalogue of the printed books in the library of the Society of Writers to H.M. Signet in Scotland. Part Second, M–Z. Supplement and list of Manuscripts. Edinburgh: printed for the Society by Neill and Company, 1882. 4to, pp. 617–1292.

The sheets of this volume as far as letter O were printed off under the care of the late Mr. David Laing; the present librarian, our member, Mr. T. G. Law, is responsible for the remainder of the work. The MSS. are few in number, and relate chiefly to Scottish law. The books are fully and carefully catalogued.

A new classified catalogue of the library of the Royal Institution of Great Britain, with indexes of authors and subjects. By Benjamin Vincent, librarian. Vol. II., including the additions from 1857 to 1882. London: sold at the Royal Institution, 1882. 8vo, pp. xvii.–388.

Compiled upon the plan of the former volume, with the same loose transcription of titles, and the same elaborately unscientific classification. For instance, Bachmaier's "Pasigraphic Dictionary" and Gerrard's "Siglarium Romanum" are under Bibliography, the "English Catalogue" is described as a bookseller's catalogue, while Nutt's and Dulau's catalogues are gravely entered as French Literature.

Smethwick. Annual Report of the Free Library Committee to the Smethwick Local Board of Health. 1881–82. Oldbury. 8vo, pp. 8.

The total issues for the year ending March 25, 1882, was 37,037, and there was an increase of 461 borrowers, making the total number now on the books 1,088. The number of books now in stock is 4,275. The reading-room has been well attended. No financial information is supplied.

Westminster. United Parishes of St. Margaret and St. John the Evangelist. Twenty-fifth Annual Report ... of the Commissioners of the Free Public Libraries, 1881–82. 1882. La. 8vo, pp. 19, and Balance Sheet.

The issues during the year, ending 30th June, at the Chief Library and the Knightsbridge Branch were, in the Lending Departments, 66,169—a decrease on the previous year; in the Reference Departments, 20,501—an increase on the previous year. The average daily attendance at the reading-rooms was about 580. During the year the Library has received about 2,000 volumes of general literature as a bequest from the late Dean Stanley. The rate produces £1,200. A new catalogue is in course of preparation.

Buffalo, N.Y. Forty-sixth Annual Report of the Executive Committee of the Young Men's Association of the City of Buffalo. Buffalo, 1882. 8vo, pp. 52.

The Librarian, Mr. Larned, reports that there are now 41,621 volumes in use, of which 3,167 have been added during the year. The circulation during the year was 91,429, a small increase over the previous year, which the librarian notes as exceptional among the libraries of the country, in which there appears to have been a persistent decrease of circulation since 1880. Mr. Larned dis-

cusses the question of excluding sensational fiction, and announces that his efforts for the last four years have resulted in a lowering of the proportion of fiction issued from 77 per cent. to 73·71 per cent. The institution has 1,777 paying members.

From Mr. Gethin's last monthly return (to Aug. 2) of the Free Library at Kidderminster, we learn that the issues were 956, of which 908 consisted of fiction. The number of new borrowers was twenty-three, and the entire number of borrowers is 987.

From the half-yearly return of issues at the Plymouth Free Public Library, made by Mr. W. H. K. Wright, we gather that the circulation during the six months ending 30th June last, amounted to 97,259 volumes, a total considerably in excess of previous issues. The value of this Library is steadily increasing, but it is sadly cramped for want of more spacious premises. It is hoped that the Corporation may take this matter into their serious consideration shortly. The new Catalogue of the lending department is nearly ready.

The estimated number of visitors to the Reading-room at the Warrington Museum, for the quarter ending 30th June last, was 9,100. The number of volumes issued in the Reading-room was 2,612, an increase of 573 on the corresponding quarter of last year; and the number of volumes issued from the Lending Library was 6,850, being a decrease of 423 on the corresponding quarter of last year.

NOTICES OF BIBLIOGRAPHIES.

The English Catalogue of Books: an alphabetical list of works published in the United Kingdom, and of the principal works published in America, with dates of publication, indication of size, price, edition, and publisher's name. Vol. III., January, 1872, to December, 1880. Compiled by Sampson Low. London Sampson Low, 1882. 8vo, pp. 562. Price, hbd. mor., £2 2s.

In spite of the many inaccuracies and omissions of this compilation, and the meagre character of the titles of the books, it is an indispensable tool in every library. That England should be behind nearly every other country in its bibliography of current literature is not very creditable, but nothing better can be hoped for until a really complete list of all books issued in the United Kingdom is brought out at least once a week.

A descriptive catalogue of historical novels and tales, for the use of school libraries and teachers of history, enlarged from the list in the *Journal of Education*, March, 1882. Compiled and described by H. Courthope Bowen. London: E. Stanford, 1882. 8vo, pp. vi., 5–29. Price 1s. 6d.

Having had Mr. Justin Winsor's excellent "Catalogue of English Prose Fiction in the Boston Public Library" as a basis to work upon, one might have reasonably expected the compiler to have drawn up this "Descriptive Catalogue" in a more precise and comprehensive manner. The list is almost entirely restricted to English or translated novels, and frequent errors in the names and in the classification of the titles point to scanty original acquaintance with the books to which

they refer. The compiler is evidently speaking ironically when, in his preface, he remarks that he has "tried to provide what seems to him a valuable aid to the school teacher of history."

A complete list of the names of the authors whose works are printed in the Greek series of Migne's Patrologia. Compiled by J. B. Pearson, D.D. Cambridge: Deighton, Bell and Co., 1882. 8vo, pp. 15. Price 2s. 6d.

A useful undertaking. A little more care might have been bestowed upon the proper names, however.

Memoir of Daniel Macmillan. By Thomas Hughes. London: Macmillan, 1882. Sm. 8vo., pp. xiv.–308. Price 4s. 6d.

The life of a successful bookseller must always be interesting to librarians, and especially when the life is that of the founder of one of the chief publishing firms of the country. Anything from the practised pen of Mr. Hughes is worth reading, but, in the present instance, perhaps, a little more trade gossip and a little less theology might have rendered the book more edifying in a technical sense.

American Library Association—Cincinnati Meeting, May 24–27, 1882. Report on the progress of library architecture, by William F. Poole, librarian of the Chicago Public Library; and resolutions of the Association concerning the building for the Library of Congress. Boston: Secretary's Office, 37, Hawley Street. 1882. 8vo, pp. 16.

Criticises the proposed new buildings for the Library of Congress and the Boston Public Library, as well as the buildings now in course of erection for the University of Michigan and the Enoch Pratt Library at Baltimore. Mr. Poole concludes by saying that "Architects are now seeking information from those to whom they formerly dictated conventional rules. Whatever improvements are to be made in library construction must come from the experience and suggestions of our own profession."

Bibliothèque des écrivains de la Congrégation de Saint-Maur. Ouvrage publié avec le concours d'un Bénédictin de Solesmes, par Ch. de Lama, libraire à Munich. Paris: V. Palmé, 1882. Sm. 8vo. Price 5frs.

The immense literary activity of the Congrégation de St. Maur makes this a necessary supplement to the works of Pez, Lecerf, and Tassin.

Dom Maugérard, ou histoire d'un bibliographe lorrain de l'ordre de Saint-Benoit au XVIII^e^. siècle; par J. B. Buzy. Châlons-sur-Marne: imp. Martin et Thouille, 1882. 8vo, pp. 303. Price 3 frs.

Dom Maugérard was private librarian to the Bishop, as well as custodian of the public library of the Abbaye de Saint-Arnould at Metz. His writings were chiefly connected with the antiquities and topography of the city.

Catalogue des estampes relatives au département des Vosges, antérieures à l'année 1790; par A. Benoit. Saint-Dié: imp. Humbert, 1882. 8vo, pp. 27.

Extract from the *Bulletin de la Société Philomathique Vosgienne*, année 1881–2.

Bibliotheca Orientalis; or a complete list of books, papers, serials, and essays published in 1881 in England and the colonies, Ger-

many and France, on the history, languages, religions, antiquities, and literature of the East; by Charles Friederici. Leipzig: O. Schulze, 1882. La. 8vo, pp. iv.–76. Price 3*s*.

Sixth year of issue of this useful publication.

Neues aus der Geographie, Kartographie und Statistik Europas und seiner Kolonien. XII. Jahrgang. Quellennachweise, Auszüge und Besprechungen zur laufenden Orientirung bearbeitet vom Grossen Generalstabe, geographisch-statistische Abtheilung. Berlin: Mittler u. Sohn, 1882. La. 8vo, pp. xxvi.–647. Price 13*s*.

This valuable annual is confined to the geographical literature of Europe and her colonies. An excellent general monthly review is supplied in *Petermann's Mittheilungen*, and all of our readers ought to be familiar with the admirable bibliography of new books, by the librarian, Mr. E. C. Rye, and of new maps by the curator, Mr. J. Coles, furnished in the monthly *Proceedings of the Royal Geographical Society*.

Die Afrika-Literatur in der Zeit von 1500 bis 1750 n. Ch. Ein Beitrag zur geographischen Quellenkunde. Von Philipp Paulitschke. Wien: Brockhausen und Bräuer, 1882. 8vo, pp. v.–122. Price 4*s*.

Describes 1,212 books, memoirs, maps, and MSS.

Uebersicht der gesammten staats-und-rechtswissenschaftlichen Literatur des Jahres 1881 zusammengestellt von Otto Mühlbrecht, mit einem ausführl. Register. XIX. Jahrg. Berlin: Puttkammer u. Mühlbrecht, 1882. La. 8vo, pp. xxii.–274. Price 4*s*.

This useful publication keeps up its reputation for accuracy and comprehensiveness.

Goethe-Jahrbuch, herausgegeben von Ludwig Geiger. III. Band. Frankfurt-am-Rhein: Rütten u. Loening, 1882. 8vo, pp. viii.–468.

Contains the usual excellent Goethe bibliography. An index to the three previous volumes is included.

Philologisches Schriftsteller-Lexikon; von W. Pökel. Leipzig: A. Krüger, 1882. La. 8vo, pp. viii.–328. Price 12*s*.

Useful for philological bibliography.

Die Nassauer Drucke der königl. Landesbibliothek in Wiesbaden, beschrieben von A. Van der Linde. I. 1467–1817. Wiesbaden: Feller u. Gecks, 1882. La. 8vo, pp. vi.–543. Price 12*s*.

The Nassau collection is one of the special features of the Library, which now numbers about 100,000 vols.

Zur Geschichte der ältesten Bibliotheken und der ersten Buchdrucker zu Strassburg; von C. Schmidt. Strassburg: C. F. Schmidt's Universitäts-Buchhandlung, 1882. 8vo, pp. viii.–200. Price 6*s*.

The first part is devoted to the history of the books and libraries at Strassburg in the middle ages, and the second is occupied with the biography of the printers of the city before 1520. The substance of the book is largely derived from manuscript sources; it includes an account of the Library of the Protestant Seminary, destroyed during the siege in 1870.

Handbuch der Geschichte der Buchdruckerkunst; von Carl B. Lorck. I. T. Erfindung, Verbreitung, Blüte, Verfall: 1450–1750. Leipzig: Weber, 1882. La. 8vo, pp. xvi.–304. Price 6*s*.

A second volume will complete this carefully written work, which is an excellent *résumé* of the history of printing.

Saggio d'una Bibliografia Leopardiana di Licurgo Cappelletti. Seconda edizione, notevolmente ampliata. Parma: Ferrari e Pellegrini, 1882. 8vo.

In five parts, consisting of—(1) Works; (2) Translations; (3) Correspondence and separate Letters; (4) Leopardi and his Family; (5) Criticism on the poet and his works.

Delle bibliografie speciali, e particolarmente di quella apistica; da Francesco Beltramini de Casati. Firenze: tip. succ. Le Monnier, 1882. 8vo, pp. 22.

Read at the International Beekeepers' Congress held at Milan in September, 1881.

Bibliografia del vi. centenario del Vespro Siciliano; da Luigi Pedone Lauriel. Palermo: L. P. Lauriel, 1882; pp. 65. Price 3*s*.

250 copies printed, all numbered. 101 articles are described, of which thirty-four are historical, four dramatic, four tales and traditions, eight discourses, thirty-nine poetical, ten journals, single pieces, &c., and two musical.

Le Biblioteche: Carme; da Guido Soster. Bologna: Zanichelli, 1882. Sm. 8vo.

Printed for private distribution only.

Nel primo Centenario di Angelo Mai. Memorie e documenti pubblicati per cura dell'Ateneo di Bergamo il 7 Marzo, 1882. Bergamo: Gaffuri e Gatti, 1882. 4to, pp. 187 and portrait.

Contents: Parole Inaugurali, da Camozzi Vertova; Elogio di Angelo Mai, da Prina; A. Mai e G. Leopardi, da Zerbini; Documenti.

Onoranze ad Angelo Mai, cardinale, nel suo 100° anniversario della nascita (vii. Marzo, 1782); dal marchese Filippo Raffaelli. Bergamo: 1882. 4to, pp. 48.

Among other matters this contains an unpublished version by Cav. J. Guerrieri, of Leopardi's *canzone* to Mai.

L'epistolario di Angelo Mai: primo saggio di cento lettere; pubblicato da G. C. L. Bergamo: frat. Bolis, 1882. Sm. 8vo.

This and the two preceding works belong to the series of publications issued in commemoration of the Mai Centenary; notices of two others have appeared in MONTHLY NOTES, p. 78.

Dr. Heinrich Krebs, librarian to the Taylor Institution, Oxford, writes to *The Academy* (June 24), that the Institution has formed almost a complete set of the publications of the bibliographer Gabriel Peignot. In the following week our member, Mr. Sam. Timmins, writes to say that he has collected fifty-three separate works, besides one hundred autograph letters, which have been published, and sixty-three which have not been published.

Our member, Mr. W. E. Axon, has added a complete bibliography to his interesting reprint of three early editions of the veracious history of "Mother Shipton" (1641, 1686, and 1684),

together with an introduction (Manchester: Heywood [1882], Sm. 8vo, pp. xxvii.–78).

At the recent meeting of the Devonshire Association for the Advancement of Literature, Science, and Art, held at Crediton in the last week in July, our member, Mr. W. H. K. Wright, read a paper on "Devonian Literature, its chief defects," in which he advocated his proposal for the preparation of a new Bibliography of that important county.

Professor Sidney Colvin has added some useful bibliographical notes to his "Selections from the writings of Walter Savage Landor." (London: Macmillan, 1882, 18mo, pp. xxxvii. 375, price 4*s.* 6*d.*).

The "Annual Report of the Smithsonian Institution, 1880" (Washington, 1881), which has only recently come to hand, contains a bibliography of anthropology, by O. T. Mason. This, of course, does not claim to be complete, but it is tolerably perfect as regards America. Another contribution to the same volume is an exhaustive synopsis and bibliography of the scientific writings of Sir William Herschel, by E. S. Holden and C. S. Hastings.

Mr. Leypoldt, the publisher of the *Library Journal*, is preparing two useful little manuals. One is "The Literature of Knowledge," a companion to the "Books of all time" already issued by him, and which will be devoted to the best works in literature, art, philosophy, history, &c.; the other will be entitled "Books for the Young," and is to consist of a catalogue of the best juvenile literature.

The July *Bulletin of the Library Company of Philadelphia* contains a bibliography of "Bi-Centennial Reading," by F. D. Stone, librarian of the Historical Society. For more convenient reference, the shelf-mark of the Library Company's copy of each work referred to is appended in a foot-note.

A new edition of Hawthorne's works, in twelve volumes, with a bibliographical introduction to each volume by Mr. G. P. Lathrop, is announced by Messrs. Houghton, Mifflin & Co. (Boston, U.S.)

A "Bibliography of the Bacon-Shakespeare Literature," has been issued by Mr. H. Wyman, of Cincinnati. It includes sixty-three titles, almost all American.

In the *Insurance Times* (New York) for April appears the commencement of a bibliography of insurance law, by Mr. J. Griswold.

The *School Bulletin* (U.S.) is publishing a very complete list of English books on teaching which are known to be attainable.

A bibliography of Victor Hugo is given in the *Literary World* (Boston) for June 3.

The *Providence Public Library Reference List*, for May, has "Emerson" for one of its subjects. The references to periodicals in the forthcoming edition of Poole's Index may be seen in the

Publishers' Weekly for May 6. A similar list is also appended to "R. W. Emerson," by A. Ireland, (Manchester, 1882, La. 8vo pp. 120).

We are glad to observe that the publishing firm of Féchoz et Letouzey are preparing for the "Dictionnaire des Anonymes" of Barbier, and the "Supercheries" of Quérard, (1) sheets of additions and corrections; (2) a supplement which will extend to a couple of voumes; and (3) a table générale of proper names contained in these works (of which the stock has been purchased by the firm in question) as well as of the proposed supplement.

P. Carlos Sommervogel, S.J., will shortly publish a "Dictionnaire des ouvrages publiés par des religieux de la compagnie de Jésu depuis sa fondation jusqu'à nos jours," in 2 vols., 8vo, double columns, which will form a valuable supplement to the well-known "Bibliothèque des écrivains de la compagnie de Jésus; par les PP. de Backer."

A "Notice bio-bibliographique" is attached to the new edition of the "Poésies diverses de Gilbert," which has just been edited by Paul Perret in the *Petits poètes du XVIII^e siècle* (Quantin).

The new edition of the "Dictionnaire du département de l'Eure" (Evreux: imp. Hérissey, 1882, 8vo, pp. xliv.–360, price 5 frs.) is supplied with a bibliography.

A bibliography is appended to "L'Année Politique (1881); par A. Daniel" (Paris: Charpentier, 1882, Sm. 8vo, pp. viii.–458. Price 3.50 frs.).

The Belgian government has resolved to assist the publication of the "Bibliothèque historique de la Belgique" by means of an annual subsidy. This important work was projected by the *Société bibliographique Belge* of Liège, and is intended to complete the similar "Repertorium" brought out at Leyden between 1863 and 1872, for the northern provinces of the former Low Countries.

The valuable "Bibliotheca Belgica" of M. Ferd. Van der Haeghen is progressing slowly, but surely. Livraisons 21–24 have recently been issued, and the names of two collaborateurs, MM. Arnold and Van den Berghe, of the Bibliothèque de l'Université de Gand, now appear on the title-page.

ADVERTISEMENT.

THE EDINBURGH SELECT SUBSCRIPTION LIBRARY is now FOR SALE, either as a whole or in Sections.

All information may be obtained on application to Mr. ANDREW TAYLOR, Joint Liquidator, 37, South Clerk Street, Edinburgh.

London: TRÜBNER & CO., Ludgate Hill.

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VOL. 3. No. 9.] [*September* 15, 1882.

BODLEIANA BIBLIOTHECA

MONTHLY NOTES

OF THE

Library Association

of the United Kingdom.

Contents:—Official Notices—Annual Meeting at Cambridge—The Auditors' Report—The New Public Library at Newcastle—Library Notes—Library Catalogues and Reports—Notices of Bibliographies.

The next MONTHLY MEETING of the Association will be held on Friday, October 6th, at 8 p.m., at the London Institution, Finsbury Circus.

The Cataloguing Rules have been reprinted with corrections, and copies may now be had from the Hon. Secretary.

THE ANNUAL MEETING AT CAMBRIDGE.

The Fifth Annual Meeting of the Association was held at Cambridge in the Hall of King's College on Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday, the 5th, 6th, 7th and 8th of September, under the Presidency of Mr. Henry Bradshaw, Librarian to the University. Over 100 members attended.

The first day's proceedings were opened at 11 a.m., on Tuesday, when Mr. Bradshaw took the chair, and called upon one of the Secretaries to announce the names of those gentlemen who being engaged in library administration had joined the Association since the last Monthly Meeting, or not being librarians were now proposed by the Council for immediate election.

The following gentlemen were then declared members of the Association:—Dr. Wright, of Queen's Coll., Prof. Newton, of Magdalene Coll., the Rev. Dr. Hort, of Emmanuel Coll., the Rev. R. W. Stoddart, of Jesus Coll., Mr. R. L. Bensly, of Caius Coll., Mr. Eirikr Magnusson, Mr. W. White, of Trinity College Library, Mr. Alfred Smith, Mr. H. T. Francis, of Caius, and Mr. J. E. Foster (Town-Clerk), of Cambridge; the Rev. A. Napier, of Holkham, Dr. J. K. Ingram, Librarian of Trin. Coll., Dublin; Mr. Samuel Smith, Librarian, Public Library, Worcester; Mr. Harry Day,

Member of the Public Library Committee, Worcester; Major Williams, Chairman of the West Bromwich Free Library Committee; Miss Elizabeth Frost, Derby; Mr. Arthur D. Morice, Aberdeen; Mr. Stanley Lane Poole, London; Mr. G. H. Cox, of Birmingham, and Mr. Granville Leveson Gower. Sir James Picton, Chairman of the Free Library Committee, Liverpool, also became a member of the Association.

The following gentlemen were enrolled as Associates for the Cambridge Meeting:—Rev. Dr. Swainson, Master of Christ's College, Prof. Humphry, Mr. Alderman Redfarn, Dr. Hessels, Mr. A. J. Wallis, of Corpus, Mr. Cockerell, Mr. G. W. Fitch, Mr. Edmond Foster, Dr. Fawcett, Rev. Dennis Hall, of the University Library, Rev. J. W. Hicks, of Sidney, Rev. F. Wallis, Mr. W. Chawnor, Mr. A. Rogers, Mr. A. G. Greenhill, of Emmanuel, Mr. Spalding, Dr. C. Waldstein and Rev. Mr. Stone, of King's.

It was then announced that letters of excuse for non-attendance had been received from many members, including Prof. Acland, Mr. J. O. Griffits, Q.C., Professor Dziatzko, the Comte de Marsy, the Baron O. de Watteville, and Count Ugo Balzani.

The TREASURER (Mr. R. Harrison,) moved the following resolution:—"That this Association desires to express its deep regret at the loss by death of its valued member the late Dr. W. Stanley Jevons, and begs to offer to Mrs. Jevons its sincere condolence with her in the sad bereavement which she has sustained." The resolution was seconded by Chancellor CHRISTIE, and after a few words by Mr. CORNELIUS WALFORD, was unanimously carried.

The PRESIDENT then delivered his opening Address, and offered the Association a hearty welcome to Cambridge.

The Report of the Council on the work of the year was agreed to be taken as read, and its adoption was moved and seconded by Mr. WALFORD and Mr. MULLINS. After some remarks by Mr. NICHOLSON and Mr. OVERALL, Mr. THOMAS moved that the further consideration of the report should be adjourned. This was seconded by Mr. MADELEY, and carried.

The TREASURER then submitted his Report, and on the motion of Mr. WALFORD, it was resolved that it be received and considered together with the Council's Report.

The CHAIRMAN then explained that the Auditors' Report had only that very morning been received and that it appeared to the Council very desirable that it should be printed before the Association was asked to adopt it. He moved, therefore, on behalf of the Council that the Auditors' Report be printed and considered on Thursday. This was unanimously agreed to.

Professor MAYOR read his paper entitled "Cambridge Libraries in 1710," after which the meeting adjourned.

On resuming at 1.45, Mr. R. GARNETT read his paper "On the Printing of the British Museum Catalogue." A discussion followed in which Messrs. Walford, H. B. Wheatley, Bullen, Barrett, Stevens, Chancellor Christie, Rev. W. D. Macray, Messrs. Cowell, Wheelhouse, Q.C., and Wilson took part.

Mr. EIRIKR MAGNUSSON, read his paper "On the Spread of Books in Early Times," after which the meeting adjourned to Trinity College Library, when the Rev. R. Sinker's paper, in the absence of the writer, was read by Mr. W. WHITE. Visits were afterwards paid to the libraries of St. John's, Caius, and King's Colleges. In the evening the members of the Association were received by the President at King's College.

SECOND DAY.

On Wednesday morning the PRESIDENT took the chair at 10 o'clock, and Mr. CORNELIUS WALFORD read his paper entitled "Some Account of Early Book-Fairs." A discussion followed in which Mr. Wyman, Dr. Seligmann, Mr. Stevens, Dr. Hessels, Messrs. Christie, H. B. Wheatley, and Bradshaw took part.

Mr. R. R. BOWKER, of New York, read a paper entitled "The Work of the Nineteenth Century Librarian for the Librarian of the Twentieth." Messrs. Timmins, Cowell and Walford took part in the discussion which followed. Mr. Bowker took the opportunity of extending a warm invitation to the Association to send a considerable representation to the United States, and urged the practicable nature of his proposal, if proper arrangements were made.

Mr. P. COWELL read his paper "On Electric Lighting in Public Libraries," and a discussion followed, in which Messrs. Harrison, Frost, Wheelhouse, Glover, Madeley, Shore, Overall, Knapman, Wyman, and others engaged.

Mr. B. R. WHEATLEY reported, on behalf of the Committee on Illustrations to the Cataloguing Rules, that a considerable number of suggested Illustrations had been collected. Mr. WELCH seconded the adoption of the Report, which was agreed to.

After the adjournment, Mr. YATES read his paper "On Public Historiography and Printing," and a long discussion followed, in which Messrs. Harrison, Bullen, Wheelhouse, Walford, Christie, Tonks, Shore, Dr. Pearson, Dr. Seligmann, Welch, Wright, Briscoe, Thomas, Madeley, and Nicholson took part. Mr. THOMAS, moved and Mr. YATES seconded a motion:—"That it be an instruction to the Council to promote the necessary measures to secure that those public documents which are printed at the public expense and for public information, may be regularly distributed to libraries established under the Public Libraries Acts." The motion was carried.

The meeting then adjourned to visit the Pepysian Library at Magdalene College, where the members of the Association were received by the President of the College. Visits were also paid to Jesus College, the Philosophical Society's Library and Emmanuel College, where an account of the library was read by the Rev. Dr. Pearson, the librarian. In the evening the members of the Association were entertained at a soirée by the Free Library Committee.

THIRD DAY.

Mr. H. R. TEDDER read a paper on "Librarianship as a Profession." The Report of the Committee on the Training of Library Assistants was read by the President. The Committee unanimously agreed to recommend the adoption of the Report presented on this subject to the last Annual Meeting at London. Mr. Tedder's paper and the Report were discussed together. Mr. MULLINS moved the adoption of the Report. Messrs. Madeley, Cowell, Nicholson, and the President took part in the discussion, and the Report was unanimously adopted. Mr. HENRY STEVENS read his paper entitled "Who Spoils our New English Books." Messrs. Blades, J. P. Edmond, and Wyman took part in the discussion, and Mr. Stevens replied.

At the afternoon sitting Mr. THOMAS reported on behalf of a Committee which had been appointed by the Council to consider the answer received to the Binding Circular issued last year, that the Committee were of opinion that a digest of the answers received should be proposed and printed in the Cambridge Volume. The Report was adopted.

The PRESIDENT announced that owing to the pressure upon their time he would not read his paper on the "History of English Binding," but hoped that at some future meeting he might do so.

Mr. F. T. BARRETT read his "Note on the Manner of Binding adopted by the Mitchell Library, Glasgow." It was agreed that Mr. J. Y. W. MacAlister's paper entitled "Notes on Binding, and a Suggestion," should be taken as read.

Mr. E. C. THOMAS gave an account of his paper "On some Recent Schemes of Classification," which it was agreed to take as read. A discussion followed in which Messrs. Barrett, Bullen, Nicholson, Dr. Pearson, Chancellor Christie, Messrs. Harrison, Garnett, and Tedder took part. It was agreed on the motion of Messrs. BARRETT and THOMAS, "That the Council be requested to draw up for the consideration of the Annual Meeting of 1883 a scheme for the classification of books in a library."

The meeting then adjourned, after which visits were paid to the Fitzwilliam Museum, where Professor Colvin received the members, to Corpus Christi, where the Rev. S. S. Lewis gave an account of the Library, and to Trinity Hall Library, where Mr. J. W. Clark described the mediæval plan of chaining books.

In the evening the members of the Association entertained the President at dinner.

FOURTH DAY.

The President having taken the chair, it was agreed, in consequence of the pressure of business, that Mr. H. B. WHEATLEY'S paper, "Thoughts on the Cataloguing of Journals and Transactions," should be withdrawn, and Mr. W. H. K. WRIGHT'S paper on "Librarians and Local Bibliography," should be taken as read.

Mr. B. R. Wheatley brought up the Report of the Committee on

Size-Notation, which was taken as read. Mr. B. R. WHEATLEY, seconded by Mr. THOMAS, proposed its adoption. After some observations from Messrs. Bullen and Madeley, Mr. Nicholson proposed "That the further consideration of the Report be deferred till next year, and that the Committee be desired to consider any practical objections which may be communicated to them, and to prepare a specimen of a convenient measuring scale." This was seconded by Chancellor CHRISTIE, and carried. It was also agreed to add Messrs. Bradshaw and Madeley to the Committee.

The adjourned Reports of the Council, the Treasurer and Auditors were then taken into consideration. Mr. WALFORD proposed that the Report of the Council be adopted, and this was seconded by Mr. MULLINS. Mr. THOMAS proposed as an amendment "That the Report be adopted, with the exception of the recommendation as to the incorporation of the present publications into one monthly publication." This was seconded by Mr. GARNETT, and after some discussion carried upon a division.

The Treasurer's statement was then considered, and Mr. OVERALL proposed its adoption. Mr. NICHOLSON moved "That the Treasurer's Statement of Receipts and Payments be received and adopted, and that the Statement of Assets and Liabilities be received." This was seconded by Mr. HARRISON and agreed to. Upon the presentation of the Auditors' Report, Mr. NICHOLSON moved that it be received. Mr. OVERALL seconded the motion, and it was agreed to.

The Meeting then proceeded to the Election of Officers, and Messrs. Gomme and Magnusson were appointed Scrutineers. The President announced that Sir James Picton being the only person nominated for the office of President was duly elected to that office, and that Mr. E. A. Bond and Dr. J. K. Ingram were duly elected Vice-Presidents. He also announced that Mr. Welch would be unable to accept re-election to the office of Secretary. It was agreed to suspend the rule as to nominations in order to enable Chancellor Christie, Mr. Cowell, Mr. Nicholson and Mr. Sutton to be immediately elected Vice-Presidents.

Mr. THOMAS proposed and Mr. WALFORD seconded a motion "That the Members of the Association tender their hearty thanks to Mr. Welch for his zealous and conscientious services as Hon. Secretary during the past two years." Messrs. Nicholson, Cowell and Harrison added some observations, and the motion was unanimously agreed to.

Mr. COWELL moved and the TREASURER seconded a motion "That the next Annual Meeting of the Association be held at Liverpool." The motion was carried by acclamation.

Mr. THOMAS proposed and Chancellor CHRISTIE seconded a motion "That the Library Association of the United Kingdom assembled at their Annual Meeting at Cambridge, recognise the service rendered to the Association by the *Library Journal* while it was our official organ, and tender their hearty thanks to all those who have been connected with its publication." The motion was unanimously agreed to.

Mr. NICHOLSON moved a resolution "That this Association is in favour of the general principle of opening public libraries, museums and art galleries for some part at least of every Sunday; though particular local circumstances may sometimes render the present application of this principle useless or undesirable." Mr. SUTTON seconded the resolution. After some remarks from Chancellor CHRISTIE, Mr. WALFORD moved the previous question, which was seconded by Mr. COWELL and carried by a large majority.

Mr. G. L. CAMPBELL then moved, and Mr. AXON seconded, a resolution "That the Library Association of the United Kingdom hereby respectfully urge upon Her Majesty's Government and the members of the Legislature the importance of consolidating and amending the law relating to free public libraries. That the Council of the Association be and hereby is authorised to take such steps as may be deemed expedient for accomplishing this object. That copies of this resolution be forwarded to the Prime Minister and to the representatives in Parliament of places which have adopted the Free Libraries Act." The resolution was unanimously agreed to.

Mr. THOMAS announced on behalf of the Council that they had agreed to withdraw for the present the amendments to the constitution of which they had given notice.

The TREASURER brought forward the motion, of which he had given notice, "In Article 4 to strike out the words 'and such subscription shall be invested by the Council on behalf of the Association.'" The motion was seconded by Mr. BARRETT, but was lost.

On the motion of Mr. BULLEN and Dr. SELIGMANN a vote of thanks was unanimously passed to the members of the Local Committee, to those members of the University and citizens of Cambridge who had contributed to the success of our Meeting, and to the Union Society for the offer of their rooms. Professor MAYOR and Mr. W. COCKERELL acknowledged the vote.

Mr. MULLINS moved and Mr. WALFORD seconded a vote of thanks to the President. The vote was carried by acclamation. The PRESIDENT acknowledged the vote. Mr. OVERALL proposed a vote of thanks to Mr. Thomas which was unanimously agreed to.

It was announced that the following members were elected to serve on the Council for the ensuing year:—London Members: G. L. Campbell; A. Cotgreave; W. P. Courtney; W. R. Douthwaite; A. J. Frost; R. Garnett; J. W. Knapman; W. H. Overall; H. Stevens; H. R. Tedder; C. Welch and H. B. Wheatley. Country Members: W. E. A. Axon; F. T. Barrett; J. P. Briscoe; W. J. Haggerston; Rev. J. C. Hudson; J. Pink; W. H. K. Wright; J. Yates. Treasurer: R. Harrison. Secretary: E. C. Thomas.

The Meeting then separated. Mr. Bradshaw conducted the members over the University Library; and visits were arranged to various other colleges and institutions.

AUDITORS' REPORT.

In compliance with the terms of the 16th Article of the Constitution, the Auditors beg leave to present to the Annual Meeting their Report on the financial affairs of the Association.

As regards the Treasurer's account of Receipts and Payments, printed in the General Report of the Council, they have nothing to remark in addition to their certificate of its correctness.

With reference, however, to the statement of Assets and Liabilities in the Report, they wish to make the following observations:—

1. The item "Subscriptions in Arrear" includes subscriptions for the current year unpaid at the date of the audit.

2. The present statement of Assets and Liabilities is necessarily of a less exact character than the statement of Receipts and Payments. On the one hand, the Auditors were unable to ascertain, from the data furnished to them, the exact number of Subscribing Members in arrear. On the other hand, by far the greater part of the Liabilities has not yet been incurred by actual contract, and the amounts estimated may finally be modified in the discretion of the Council. The Auditors gave their best consideration to the amounts on both sides of the Statement, with the primary object of avoiding the serious mistake of the Assets being over-estimated or the Liabilities under-estimated.

3. As regards the Assets, the Auditors have not reckoned among the arrears those cases in which the Register of Subscribing Members and the printed list record neither date of election, nor payment of a first subscription, or any other evidence of acceptance of membership. Had they felt justified in doing so, the Assets would have appeared to be about £40 more than is shown in the present statement.

4. It is obviously impossible to arrive at the available balance of Assets and Liabilities until the amount not recoverable of the unpaid subscriptions has been ascertained. It will then rest with the Council to determine how far the expenditure estimated for shall be actually incurred. In any case, the solvency of the Association can thus be safeguarded.

In conclusion, the Auditors venture to submit the following suggestions:—

1. That, immediately on his election, every new subscribing member be recorded in the Register now held by the Treasurer, with the date of his election: so that the Treasurer may have a complete list of those persons from whom, and the dates at which, subscriptions are due. At present this does not appear to be the case. The Register of subscribing members would then be (as the Auditors think it ought to be) an authentic record by which the accuracy of any printed list might be tested.

2. That, before each Annual Meeting, the Treasurer's Report of receipts, payments, assets and liabilities be called for by a resolution of the Council; and be laid before both the Council and the Auditors some weeks prior to the Annual Meeting.

3. The Auditors believe that it would be to the permanent interest of the Association that the investigation of its financial affairs should be intrusted to a standing professional Auditor, re-eligible each year; in place of the two Auditors at present annually chosen from the Members of the Association.

J. W. BONE, } *Auditors.*
LONDON, *August*, 1882. WM. BRACE, }

THE NEW PUBLIC LIBRARY AT NEWCASTLE.

The internal arrangements and fittings of this important library building appear to embody so many of the more modern ideas in library economy, that we venture to lay before our readers an account of them, which we have condensed from the account published in the local newspapers. We regret that in the space at our disposal we are unable to speak of the external appearance, or the more artistic internal features of what appears to be a very beautiful structure. The basement is provided with a work-room, in which books are received, checked off with the invoices, collected, stamped, and labelled, after which they are sent to their respective departments in the library. Books requiring re-binding are also dealt with here, on their despatch to and return from the binder. Throughout the entire building open fireplaces have been dispensed with, and hot water pipes substituted for heating purposes. The floor is cemented, so that there is little danger of fire in that quarter. Passing through the handsome portico from the street into the main building, the visitor finds himself in a spacious and lofty vestibule, 43ft. long by 20ft. wide. To the right of the vestibule is the news-room, measuring 70 ft. by 49 ft., which will be well supplied with newspapers and periodicals. Copies of the time tables of the whole of the railway companies and principal steamboat companies in Great Britain and Ireland, together with the chief of those on the Continent, will be found on the tables in the reading-room. To the left of the vestibule is the new Lending Library, 61 ft. long by 42 ft. broad, and it is connected with the Mechanics' Institute portion, which has been used as a lending library for the last two years. It was originally intended that the Mechanics' Institute portion should be the Reference Library, but so successful has been the Lending Library during the two years that it has been opened, that the committee felt themselves obliged to abandon their original design, and to throw that room as well as the new Lending Library into one. The new portion of the Lending Library is so arranged as to store 25,000 volumes. This is accomplished by carrying the wall cases on two sides of the room to a height of 13 feet, and by arranging separate double cases to form alcoves, projecting from the north and south walls. These are enclosed within a counter, which supports the library indicator. Five separate portions of the stock are placed within three feet of the right or left of the issue desks.

The connection with the old Lending Library is effected by an elliptical arch cut through the main wall. The two rooms combined provide accommodation for at least 60,000 volumes, if ever such a number were required. In the old room, to which there is a special entrance, the juvenile library is stored. In addition to the juvenile department, between 4,000 and 5,000 volumes of the publications of the Commissioners of Patents of Inventions will also be placed. The alcove cases referred to are carried up to a height of only eight feet, to prevent the use of ladders, which are more or less objectionable. The wall cases are provided with brass rods and double hooked ladders, similar to those fixed in the old portion of the building. The lending library is lighted by means of three sunlights of thirty-two jets each. From each sunlight ventilating tubes are carried to the top of the building, and are so protected as to prevent any down draught. To light the inside of the counters five of Benham's globe lights, each supplied with three burners, have been fixed, the globes being closed and supplied with tubes admitting cold air on one side and carrying off the heated air on the other through the window. Excellent light has been secured, and the temperature after the gas has been lighted for several hours has never exceeded sixty-five degrees of Fahrenheit. No appreciable injury has been noticed in the books least in demand which have been placed on the higher shelves. We understand from Mr. Haggerston that in view of the possible adoption of electric lighting, the gas-fittings have been simply but ingeniously arranged so as to be easily adapted for the new system. The windows have been specially designed in the interests of good ventilation, and air can be admitted or excluded to any degree by the simplest arrangements. The windows are designed upon the double principle of either opening full, so as to flush the building with fresh air, or closing tight to exclude it, by a simple screw arrangement from the side; or when the windows are quite sealed a current of air may be admitted through a box which is fitted into the base of the windows. This can be so regulated as to prevent a draught at the same time that it admits of ventilation. Immediately to the left, upon entering the Lending Library, is the Librarian's office, which is fitted with speaking tubes connected with the different departments of the building. The office has been shelved with everything of a bibliographic character necessary in an institution of the kind. A wide staircase leads to the Reference Library, which was at first intended as an Art Gallery. A large coloured glass window of geometrical design lights the staircase, in addition to a light from the roof. The landing is to serve for conversational purposes, so as not to disturb the comfort of the readers in the Reference Library. A table will be provided with writing materials and chairs. The Reference Library, which is 132 feet by 41 feet, is divided by an entablature supported by Corinthian columns, and is lighted on the south side. The shelving is carried to a height of eight feet to prevent the decay of books arising from excessive heat by gas and hot air, and at the

same time to obviate the necessity of ladders. Instead of a hand-rail a counter will be placed round the room, to prevent the books being subject to unnecessary handling, and to make the assistants responsible for their proper care. In the centre of the floor of both sections of the room tables will be placed, which will be carefully padded and covered with billiard cloth, so as to prevent any damage or injury to the more costly binding of the rarer works. Each table will be provided with a bell having a different tone, so that the assistants will know at once the particular table requiring attention. This room is connected by a door with the old library of the Mechanics' Institute, which is yet entirely devoted to educational purposes, including the classes connected with the Science and Art Department. At the east end of the Reference Library is the committee-room, which will be specially shelved to provide accommodation for the large and rare works in the fine arts, national history, science, &c., together with the ordnance survey plans. Arrangements will be made by which students and those interested in special subjects will have access to this room. An American revolving bookcase is to be provided, upon which, when ordered, all the works in the Reference Library upon any special subject may be placed, to be within reach of the reader at will. The bookcase will hold about 200 volumes of various sizes, and when wheeled to the side of the reader he has the advantage of a library specially devoted to the subject he may be investigating within his reach. This bookcase does away with the necessity of littering the table with books, as each volume can be easily replaced until it is further wanted. The room is excellently lighted from the roof by day, and at night it is illuminated by gas sunlights. Warned by the disastrous fire which took place in the Birmingham library a few years ago, the committee have taken special precautions against fire in the new building. It is also arranged that the library staff shall be regularly drilled in fire brigade practice, so that in the event of an outbreak of fire measures may promptly be taken.

LIBRARY NOTES.

BERLIN.—Rudolph Genée has contributed some articles to the *National-Zeitung* upon "Das deutsche Drama der Reformations-Zeit in der Königlicher Berliner Bibliothek" and in concluding them calls attention in a separate article (Aug. 13) to the condition of the Library and to the urgent necessity for a new building. In addition to the impossibility of finding space for the ever-increasing flood of books, the public and the administration have to submit to great inconveniences. The main alphabetical catalogue consists of over 800 folio volumes which serve as an index to the systematic or "Fach" catalogues, embracing more than 600 volumes. Nowhere, according to Genée, is it possible to find a more excellent cataloguing system, and yet nowhere is the use of a catalogue hampered by such difficulties, difficulties entirely due to restricted space.

It has been suggested that the Palace in the Behren-Strasse should be annexed to the Library. Genée is glad that this is found impracticable, for nothing but a new building will suffice for the case, and a new library building is at least as necessary as the new Reichstag building. He concludes by suggesting that one need not look far for a site, for the Akademie der Künste und Wissenschaften is close at hand.

CAMBRIDGE.—In connection with the visit of the Association to Cambridge, Mr. Pink prepared an interesting account of "the Cambridge Public Free Library: Its Rise and Progress" (4 pp. 8vo). From this we gather that the Central Library contains 23,430 volumes, and the Barnwell Branch 3,511. About £150 is annually expended in the purchase of books, and the Library has been very fortunate in the matter of donations, inasmuch as more than half the books have been presented. Mr. Pink states that his object in preparing this account has been "to show the progress of the Free Library in one of our smaller towns, and to solicit hints and suggestions for its improvement and development."

EXETER.—On August 30 the foundation-stone was laid of new buildings to be constructed in enlargement of the Albert Memorial Museum, &c. Lord Coleridge afterwards delivered an address.

LEEK.—The foundation-stone of a free library for Leek, Staffordshire, the gift of Mr. Joshua Nicholson, head of the firm of Messrs. Brough, Nicholson and Co., silk manufacturers, was laid on the 11th September by Mrs. Nicholson, wife of the donor. The institution is to include an art gallery, museum, and school of art. The building and endowment will cost about £20,000, and the erection of the structure, which is to be called the Nicholson Institute, will occupy nearly two years.

LONDON: BRITISH MUSEUM.—Since the 1st of September the Reading-room of the British Museum has been illuminated by four new Siemens' arc lamps, which are so adjusted as to distribute equal light over the whole room. They will be in operation until the 1st of April, so that the Reading-room may be kept open until 8 p.m.

NEWCASTLE.—The new Free Library Building, of which an account will be found elsewhere in our present number, was opened at ten o'clock on the 1st September.

NOTTINGHAM.—It is proposed to publish a Calendar of Stretton Manuscripts (1230–1397) preserved in the Free Public Reference Library of University College, Nottingham. These documents were collected by the late Mr. William Stretton, of Lenton Priory, who was gathering materials for a history of Nottingham.

PLYMOUTH.—The committee of the Public Library have issued an appeal for donations and subscriptions to a special fund to be devoted solely to the purchase of *works of local interest*, with the view of enlarging the special collection of Devon and Cornwall books, which now numbers 1,495 volumes.

A special meeting of the Committee of the Free Public Library was held on August 15th for the purpose of greeting Mr. S. C. Hall. Mr. Hall explained his reasons for selecting Plymouth as the town for the disposal of his books, and announced his intention to forward several hundred volumes in about two months and others as he could spare them.

PRESTON.—The foundation-stone of the new Free Library and Museum was laid on the 5th of September (the day on which our Annual Meeting began at Cambridge), by the Earl of Lathom. Lord Derby delivered a suggestive and interesting address upon local patriotism, from which we take the following sentences :—" In the middle ages it was thought a strange and even a discreditable thing if any man who was well off died without leaving some portion of his wealth to the Church. May it not come to be thought in the same way a thing not unusual, but to be expected and almost a matter of course, that everyone who has something to spare from the wants of his family shall, either in life or at the close of it, contribute something to the enjoyment or to the intellectual requirements of the community in which he lives ? "

The new volume (third) of " Old Yorkshire," edited by William Smith, contains an excellent photographic portrait of Mr. James Crossley, President of the Chetham Society, and honorary librarian of the Chetham Library. Mr. John Ballinger contributes to the same volume an account of an old Doncaster Library, founded by the "Society of the Clergy of Doncaster" in 1714, and destroyed by fire in the burning of Doncaster Parish Church in 1853. An interesting historical account is also given of the Leeds (Old) Library, which was established in 1768 and is still flourishing.

It may be worth while to point out that among the requirements of the Congress of French Schoolboys recently held at Bordeaux, was one that the school libraries should be enlarged and opened for the use of day scholars as well as of boarders.

We note that the Rev. J. M. Wilson (Head Master of Clifton) who has just sent to the *Daily News* (Sept. 12) an account of a visit to Rugby, Tennessee, mentions " The Hughes Public Library, a building erected by well-wishers to Mr. Hughes in Boston, Cincinnati, New York and elsewhere, and to which American publishers have sent about 5,000 volumes, and which Chicago offers to make 'symmetrical' by supplying some thousands more. Rugby is fortunate in having the services of an excellent librarian, Dr. Bertz, of Tübingen."

LIBRARY CATALOGUES AND REPORTS.

Banbury Mechanics' Institute. Rules and Library Catalogue. Banbury, 1882. 8vo, pp. 88. Price 9*d.*

The books in the class " History, Travels, &c." are classified under countries and as an appendix to the class Fiction appears a list of the serial stories contained in bound magazines.

Sunderland Public Free Library and Museum and Art Gallery Report of Committees for year ending December 31st, 1881. Sunderland, 1882. 8vo, pp. 11.

The issues in the Reference department were 7,234, of volumes for home reading 61,483—an increase upon the corresponding months of 1880. 1,219 volumes were added during the year.

The Bristol Free Library issues no separate printed report, but Mr. J. F. Nicholls, the Librarian, reports: "Our stock in the four Libraries consists of 53,651 vols; of these 4,948 are mostly old classical books, and are practically unread; 2,110 other volumes are Bristol Books, kept solely for reference. This reduces our workable total to 46,593 volumes, which, if read equally, would give a turnover for the year of 9¼ times. The issues for the year have been rather less than in 1881, reaching only to 428,575 volumes. The visits to the News and Magazine Room have averaged for 1882 about 710,000, making a grand total of 1,138,575 usages of the four Libraries during the twelve months. The cash taken for fines, catalogues, &c., amounted to £338 17*s.* 1*d.*"

The Hawick Free Library does not issue printed reports, but we have received from Mr. Watson an abstract of the accounts as at Whit Sunday, 1882. The Library rate produced £192 8*s.* 7*d.*, and £34 were received from subscriptions. The amount expended upon the maintenance of the library during the year was £238 17*s.* 11*d.* The Library continues to be much used.

The Report of the librarian of the Galashiels Free Library for the year ending 30th June last announces that the issues were 17,286, a decrease of 789 on the previous year, which is explained by the library having been closed for three weeks. The proportion of fiction was 57 per cent. The income (including £24 15*s.* 1*d.* balance from last year) was £264 5*s.* 1*d.*, and the estimated expenditure £245 7*s.* 8*d.*

NOTICES OF BIBLIOGRAPHIES.

Note sur le premier livre connu imprimé à Clermont, en 1523; par Antoine Vernière. Le Puy-en-Velay: imprimerie Marchesson frères, 1882. 8vo, pp. xix.

Only 100 copies printed for private circulation.

Annuaire de la librairie, de l'imprimerie, et de la papeterie, et du commerce de la musique et des estampes pour l'année 1882. Paris: Cercle de la Librairie, 1882. 8vo, pp. 700. Price 5frs.

Contains a "Résumé de la législation relative à l'imprimerie et à la librairie," par M. Paul Delalain, besides an account of the laws relating to the press, the legislation connected with literary and artistic copyright, the formalities prescribed by international conventions, &c.

Die gesammte Keramische Literatur; ein zuverlässiger Führer für Liebhaber, Gewerbetreibende und sonstige Interessenten; zugleich ein Supplement zu des Verfassers Grundriss der Keramik; von F. Jaennicke. Stuttgart: P. Neff, 1882. Sm. 8vo, pp. xvi.–146. Price 2*s.* 6*d.*

Just as the author's *Grundriss der Keramik* owes all its substance to the great work of Jacquemin, this list has been freely copied from the *Bibliographie* of Champfleury (see MONTHLY NOTES, p. 21), which is really the best book on the subject. It may be recommended, however, as a cheap and useful catalogue of keramic literature.

Grundriss der Oesterreichischen Geschichte; von Franz Krones. Wien: Hoelder, 1882. Sm. 8vo, pp. 926.

Concisely and clearly written. Each section is preceded with abundant bibliographical references, making the work a valuable bibliography of Austrian history. The genealogical part is also treated with fulness and care.

Ungarns Geschichtsquellen im Zeitalter der Arpaden; von H. Marchiali. Berlin: Hertz, 1882. 8vo.

Upon the model of Wattenbach and Lorenz. It is to be hoped that the author may follow up this work and furnish a complete account of the sources of Hungarian history.

De' primi inventori delle lettere e stampe per servire alle arti dello scolpire, del miniare e dello scrivere, e de' libri e degli esemplari di caratteri intagliati o impressi fino alla metà del secolo xvi., e degli autori di essi; dal conte G. Manzoni. Bologna: G. Romagnoli, 1882. 8vo, 8 plates. Price 5*s.*

The subject is treated with great skill and completeness.

Articoli di bibliografia storica; da Costanzo Rinaudo. Milano: tip. di L. Bortolotti e C., 1882. 8vo, pp. 27.

Reprinted from the *Archivio Storico Lombardo.*

Bibliografia delle campagne per l'independenza italiana. Roma: tip. C. Voghera, 1882. 8vo, pp. 55.

An extract from *Rivista Militare Italiana*, 1882.

Mr. Henry J. Morgan, Keeper of the Records, Canada, is preparing a "Bibliotheca Canadensis," or manual of Canadian literature.

The *Calcutta Review* for July contains an article by Mr. J. W. Sherer, on the "Antecedents of the Modern Book."

M. de Schickler will henceforth regularly publish in the *Bulletin de la Société de l'Histoire du Protestantisme Français*, a bibliography of works connected with the history of French Protestantism.

The *Bulletin de la Société de l'Histoire de Paris* (1882, no. 3) contains some curious documents concerning the dispersion (1642–52) of Mazarin's library during the Fronde.

The *Bibliothèque de l'Ecole des Chartes* (t. xliii., 1882, 3e livr.) contains an article by M. Delisle on the "Anciens catalogues de livres imprimés de la Bibliothèque du Roi."

M. Alph. Wauters, archivist of the city of Brussels, has published the sixth volume (1280–1300) of his great "Table chronologique des chartes et des diplômes imprimés concernant l'histoire de Belgique."

M. Alf. Jacob has printed separately his article, "Notice biographique et bibliographique sur le comte de Widranges," from *Mémoires de la Société des Lettres, Sciences et Arts de Bar-le-Duc*, 1882, t. x.

A bibliography, by Emil. Motta, of the literature (1844–82) connected with the St. Gothard Railway is now running through the *Bibliographie und Literarische Chronik der Schweiz*.

The *Historisk Tidsskrift*, Series III., vol. 3, 1–2, furnishes a catalogue of foreign publications, published during 1880, which relate to the history of Denmark.

Besides the usual complete list of bibliographies and of works relating to libraries, the August–September number of Petzholdt's *Neuer Anzeiger* contains a particularly interesting display of original articles, including one on the Bibliothèque Nationale at Paris, by Prof. Th. Schott.

A bibliography of works connected with the subject is appended to "Frauenarbeit in der Armen-und Krankenpflege; von Amélie Sohr." (Berlin: J. Springer, 1882. 8vo, pp. viii.–107. Price 2*s*.).

A series of articles, entitled "Der Jubelfeste der Buchdrucker seit 1540; ein bibliographischer Versuch von Louis Mohr," has been appearing for some weeks in the *Oesterreichische Buchdrucker-Zeitung*.

The "Vita L. Aeli Sejani Tiberio imperante praefecti praetoris; adumbravit Jo. Jülg" (Innsbrück: Wagner, 1882, 8vo, pp. 38), contains a bibliography of the subject.

Herr G. Wolf, of Leipzig, proposes to publish a "Supplement und Nachtrag zur Bibliographie der Freimaurerei, etc.; von Georg Kloss, D.M."

A bibliography of the numerous writings of Count Cesare Balbo is given in the *Bibliografia Italiana*, for February 28 and following numbers. This is the work of Signor Antonio Vismara, who has already supplied to the same periodical the bibliographies of Ignazio Cantú, Massimo d'Azeglio, and F. D. Guerrazzi.

Signor Emilio Motta has issued, under the title of "Note Bibliografiche," a monograph upon the late Stefano Franscini, formerly Swiss minister of state.

The *Archivio storico per le provincie Napolitane* (anno vii. fasc. 2) supplies a list of the writings of the late Carlo Minieri Riccio, formerly superintendent of the Neapolitan archives.

Mr. W. M. Griswold (ass. lib. of the Library of Congress, Washington) announces an Index to the *Deutsche Rundschau* (vols. 1–29), price 4*s*., and a "General Autor-und Sach-register zu Zeitschriften meist historischen inhalts, und zwar die *Historische Zeitschrift*, *Unsere Zeit*, das *Historische Taschenbuch*, price 12*s*.

The 11th volume, just issued, of the new edition of the "Œuvres complètes de Brantôme," edited for the Société de l'Histoire de France by M. Lud. Lalanne, consists of a most elaborate and valuable "Table des matières" (pp. 395, double columns), which is the first which has ever been compiled of Brantôme's works.

Another recent index is "Table méthodique des articles publiés dans la Revue de l'Art Chrétien depuis l'origine (Janvier, 1857), jusqu'au 31 Décembre, 1881, suivie de la table générale des dessins." (Paris: Dumoulin et Cie, 1882, 8vo, pp. 53.)

A bibliography of the subject is appended to "Chronograms: 5,000 and more in number, excerpted out of various authors and collected at many places; by James Hilton." (London: Elliot Stock, 1882. 4to. Price £2 2*s*.

A Bibliography of the literature of Emanuel Swedenborg and of the New Church is being prepared by the Rev. J. R. Boyle, and will be published, if a sufficient number of subscribers can be secured. The book will extend to about 400 pages, quarto, and will be very handsomely printed if the promise of the specimen issued is borne out. It will be issued by Mr. Charles Higham, of Farringdon Street, and the price, to subscribers, will be £1 1*s*.

We have received the paper read before the American Library Association in May last, by Mr. Lloyd P. Smith, "On the Classification of Books," which has been separately published by the Library Bureau, Boston, and to which is appended an elaborate development of Mr. Smith's proposed scheme of classification followed by an extensive alphabetical Index. We hope to give some account of Mr. Smith's plan in our next number, and to take the opportunity of referring also to the pamphlet published by Mr. Fred. B. Perkins, at San Francisco, entitled "A Rational Classification of Literature." We observe that Mr. Smith announces that the profits of his publication, if any, are to go to the American Library Association.

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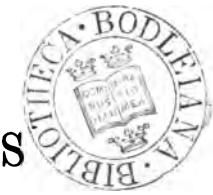
VOL. 3. No. 10] [*October* 16, 1882.



MONTHLY NOTES

OF THE

Library Association

of the United Kingdom.

Contents:—Official Notices—October Monthly Meeting—The American Library Association and the Cincinnati Conference—Library Notes—Library Catalogues and Reports—Notices of Bibliographies, &c.—Forthcoming Bibliographies.

The next MONTHLY MEETING of the Association will be held on Friday, November 3, at 8 p.m., at the London Institution, Finsbury Circus, when a Paper will be read on "Japanese Libraries and Books," by Mr. C. PFOUNDES.

The Council have had before them the various resolutions passed at the Cambridge Meeting, and, in accordance with Article 23 of the Constitution, desire, before taking action upon the resolution with reference to the supply of Public Documents to Public Libraries, and the resolution with reference to the consolidation and amendment of the law relating to Free Public Libraries, to invite the opinions and suggestions of the provincial members of the Association.

It may be convenient to reprint those resolutions from the account of the Cambridge Proceedings, which appeared in our last number. They were as follows:—

(1.) That it be an instruction to the Council to promote the necessary measures to secure that those public documents which are printed at the public expense and for public information may be regularly distributed to Libraries established under the Public Libraries Acts.

(2.) That the Library Association of the United Kingdom hereby respectfully urge upon Her Majesty's Government and the Members of the Legislature the importance of consolidating and amending the law relating to Public Free Libraries.

That the Council of the Association be and hereby is authorised to take such steps as may be deemed expedient for accomplishing this object.

That copies of this resolution be sent to the Prime Minister and to the representatives in Parliament of places which have adopted the Free Libraries Acts.

OCTOBER MONTHLY MEETING.

The first Monthly Meeting of the sixth year of the Association was held at the London Institution, on Friday, October 6th, at 8 p.m., Mr. Cornelius Walford, V.P., in the chair.

The Minutes of the last Meeting having been read and confirmed, it was announced that the KÖNIGLICHE-UND-UNIVERSITATS-BIBLIOTHEK, BRESLAU, had joined the Association; and Mr. A. T. MARTIN, Librarian of Clifton College; Mr. NATHANIEL JEPSON, Chairman of the Free Library Commissioners, Darwen; and Mr. EDWIN FRESHFIELD, Librarian of the Order of the Knights of St. John of Jerusalem.

The following gentlemen, having been duly proposed and seconded at the previous Meeting, were unanimously elected Members of the Association:—Mr. T. D. HALLEY, and Mr. J. F. L. MABIN, 170, Union Street, Plymouth,

The following gentlemen were then duly proposed and seconded for election at the next Meeting:—Mr. A. ALLCHIN, 5, Arundel Street, Strand; and Mr. J. E. HODGSON, 5, Hill Road, Abbey Road, St. John's Wood, both proposed by the Treasurer; Mr. J. A. WADE, Hull, proposed by Mr. W. H. K. Wright; Mr. M. F. ROBERTS, 38, Penn Road Villas, Camden Road, N., proposed by Mr. W. T. Glover; and Mr. C. PFOUNDES, of the Admiralty, proposed by Mr. C. Welch.

A discussion having arisen upon the terms upon which Libraries should be admitted to membership, it was moved by the SECRETARY, and unanimously agreed, "That the Council be requested to consider the desirability of offering to the next Annual Meeting of the Association a rule to prescribe the amount of the subscription proper to be paid by Libraries or other institutions, and the privileges to be accorded them."

The Meeting then adjourned.

THE AMERICAN LIBRARY ASSOCIATION AND THE CINCINNATI CONFERENCE.

The *Library Journal* for July–August has just come to hand, and affords a good opportunity to say something about the American Library Association and their last Conference, as well as briefly to compare the working of the American and the English associations. The two bodies have several points of difference. In the first place the Library Association of the United Kingdom may claim to be constructed upon a broader basis. Whereas the A.L.A. is exclusively practical and technical, the L.A.U.K. has devoted considerable attention to the history of libraries, and some regard to bibliography

has justified the retention of that subject as one of our main objects. The complete absence of antiquarian topics at the conferences of the A.L.A. certainly gives an aspect of aridity to their proceedings. On the other hand our own meetings have almost entirely omitted to discuss many questions of pressing professional importance which have been very ably and fully treated in America. In explanation of the severely technical character of the American conferences it has been urged that new and rapidly-increasing libraries are more interested in methods of actual library management than in bibliographical museums or the curiosities of librarianship. The L.A.U.K. is constituted upon the lines of the antiquarian and scientific societies familiar to Englishmen, with frequent meetings in London, like the Society of Antiquaries and Royal Society, and yearly gatherings in different parts of the country like the Social Science Association and the Church Congress. The magnificent distances between most of the members of the A.L.A. render such constant personal intercourse impossible, and the annual conferences are therefore the only occasions upon which the members in general are able to come together. One of the best features of the L.A.U.K. is that, while it has always maintained its distinct professional character, it has had the advantage of being able to attract a very large number of persons not connected with library management but deeply interested in library work, and who have given to our discussions a certain breadth of tone that might have been wanting had librarians alone taken part in them.

It must be acknowledged that the business arrangements of the American conferences are superior to those of our meetings. We appear to allow anyone to read papers on any subject which can at all be supposed within our scope without any pretence to systematic treatment. The course of action at Cincinnati may be contrasted with such haphazard procedure. It having been decided long before to make classification the chief item of the programme, the promise was faithfully carried out, with a result that the members knew what they were going to discuss and were not disappointed by a miscellaneous array of enigmatic titles. Another excellent feature consisted of the reviews by competent authorities of the progress made during the year in different branches of library-management. Thus, Mr. Larned reported on classification; Mr. Poole on new library buildings; Mr. Green on aids and guides to readers; Mr. Jones mentioned the chief catalogues issued in the course of the year; Mr. Lindenfelt reported on charging systems; and Miss Hewins on juvenile reading. It would be well if we were to follow the example and make reports on the improvements attempted in different departments of librarianship a regular part of our own annual meetings. The A.L.A. owes everything to the *Library Journal*, and it may be doubted whether it could long proceed without that excellent representative organ. Thanks to a few energetic and capable men it has done a large amount of most valuable work, but as a corporation it is of a somewhat vague nature. There is no council's report, no visible list of members,

and the treasurer's and secretary's reports are rather informal documents, and would shock the susceptibilities of those among us who proclaim against our own financial and administrative shortcomings. It is to be hoped that there is no falling off in the interest taken by its members in the A.L.A., but only forty-five persons were present at Cincinnati, and these were nearly all librarians or members of library-committees.

The conference was opened on Wednesday morning, May 24, with a presidential address by Mr. Justin Winsor, on the general progress of library interests, followed, after the transaction of some formal business, by Mr. W. F. Poole giving an account (see p. 176) of his forthcoming index to periodical literature, and suggesting the preparation in a similar manner of an index to collectaneous works like that proposed by Mr. Thomas at the Oxford meeting in 1878, and of which he does not appear to have heard. Mr. Cutter then reported on behalf of the co-operation committee, stating that they had considered our cataloguing rules and proposed to modify their own code as far as possible in harmony with them. The A.L.A. catalogue was in a most unsatisfactory condition. Mr. Perkins having been compelled to give it up, the committee undertook to bring it out in sections prepared by specialists, but as yet they have been only able to secure the help of one person. The competent men are too busy, and the committee thought a catalogue of this sort not worth publishing unless well done. Mr. S. S. Green, chairman of the committee appointed at the Washington meeting to secure a more satisfactory distribution of public documents, stated that bills embodying the wishes of the association had been prepared (see MONTHLY NOTES for February, p. 18). These had been sent, supported with numerous petitions, to the committee of the U.S. Senate on printing, but no action had yet been taken. Mr. L. P. Smith spoke in favour of engaging an agent at Washington to procure the papers for such libraries as desired them. The remainder of the day was spent in sightseeing.

On Thursday morning, May 25, Mr. J. N. Larned (Young Men's Library, Buffalo) submitted his report on classification, which was chiefly devoted to Mr. Perkins' "Rational Classification," referred to in our last number. In the course of discussion, Mr. Cutter mentioned, as an instance of the ease with which his combined system was worked, a fact which had come under his notice on the eve of his departure, where a boy on his first entrance to the library was able to understand and use the notation without any difficulty. Mr. W. F. Poole then read his report on the progress of library architecture, noticed in our August number, see (p. 140). The Secretary's report for 1881–2 was afterwards taken up. Mr. Dui, who was unfortunately absent, stated that the new system of sectional reports had relieved him of much official labour. The Consultation Department had proved of great service to those who had used it, mostly by correspondence. About forty persons ahd availed themselves of the Employment Department. Some wrok had been done in the Catalogue and Index Department, and the

Publication Department was able to show signs of increased usefulness. As regards the future, new editions of the rules for cataloguing, indexes of subjects, and the decimal classification, are soon to appear, as well as introductions, with rules and illustrations, for the shelf and accession-catalogues, for binding and order-books. The long-promised Library Manual was fairly started, some pages being already in type. A lively discussion next ensued on the question of restricting the use of rare and valuable books in libraries. It was generally agreed that the necessary power might be vested in the librarian, who, however, ought to use it with discreet liberality. Mr. J. L. Whitney read his communication on selecting and training library assistants, briefly enumerating their desirable qualifications, among which a good knowledge of languages was a chief necessary; indeed, he did not see how anyone ought to take the post of librarian without being acquainted with Latin and Greek. Mr. S. S. Green next submitted his account of the progress made during the year in furnishing aids and guides to readers, and dealing with new catalogues, indexes, bibliographies, and generally with libraries as educational institutions. The paper of Mr. J. Schwartz (Apprentices' Library, N. Y.) on his new classification and notation was read by Mr. Cutter, in the absence of the writer. There were already three kinds of shelf-arrangement, the numerical, the alphabetical, and the classified; the combined system invented by Mr. Schwartz claims to possess the merits of them all, coupled with certain mnemonic advantages peculiar to itself. The classification is in twenty-three departments, twenty of which are in alphabetical order, and devoted to octavos and the smaller sizes, and each being designated by the initial of their names. For instance, A is American history, B Biography, &c. In the other three headings the letter denotes the size, Q being used for quartos, F for ordinary folios, and X for extraordinary sizes. Each of the twenty-three departments except N (novels) is subdivided into nine classes, also arranged alphabetically, and numbered from 1 to 9. The twenty-two departments therefore include 220 classes, each of which is further divided into four sub-classes, designated *a*, *b*, *c*, *d*, every important subject being thus supplied with a separate heading. Having in this way a system of alphabetically-arranged classes from A0 to Z9, 999 was selected as the lowest admissable figure for author-numbers, in order to provide for the possible acquisitions in each class. The number 999 is then divided into three series of 300 and one of 100, the latter being used for the less important classes, and distributed in this manner throughout the alphabet of authors' names. Where a class contains several works by the same author a further addition is needed to distinguish one book from another, and the nine Arabic numerals and the twenty-six letters of the alphabet have been chosen for the purpose, making thirty-six possible variations. The separate works may be arranged either alphabetically or according to acquisition. In N (novels), where the number of individual works of most authors is very large, the system has been extended, and the series *b*, *c*, *d*, of author-numbers

run to 3,000 each, allowing ten variations for each combination. The first series of 3,000 is devoted to English, the second to French, German and Spanish, and the third to German and Teutonic fiction. The *a* series of 100 is similarly extended by ten, and divided into four sub-classes. Duplicates and different editions are also provided for. This was followed by Mr. J. M. Ward's (Grosvenor Library, Buffalo) remarks on public libraries and the public, which were reported to have been of a practical and conservative nature, as opposed to theories of library-management regarded by the speaker as extravagant and unreasonable. These sentiments provoked a prolonged discussion, in which somewhat more liberal and elevated views were taken of the obligations of librarians towards readers.

On Friday, May 26, after the Conference had passed a long list of votes of thanks, and fixed upon Buffalo for the meeting of 1883 by a division of 16 to 6, Mr. Cutter explained his scheme for the classification of the book-arts, or everything relating to the making, keeping, and the using of books. As far as he knew, no one had yet thought of grouping these subjects together. Literary history is usually made a subdivision of belles-lettres, but bibliography is made a class by itself; publishing and bookselling are put under commerce, but booksellers' catalogues are with bibliography; and while printing itself is arranged with the mechanic arts, the history of printing is under bibliography. It was not denied that these classings were correct, but the speaker maintained that it would be much more convenient to classify the book-arts in systematic order, both as regards practical usefulness and as an aid to memory. After a general class, Mr. Cutter proposed to arrange his subject under four main divisions—book-production, book-distribution, book-buying and book-storage, and book-description. Book-production would include authorship, with rhetoric and indexing, writing and palæography, art and history of printing, incunabula, and binding. Book-distribution would embrace publishing, bookselling, and booksellers' and auctioneers' catalogues. Under book-buying and book-storage would fall bibliomania, the history and catalogues of private libraries, general administration and management, history and catalogues of public libraries. Book-description would comprehend bibliography and literary history. After passing certain resolutions condemning the proposed plan for the new library of Congress, submitted at the Washington Conference by Mr. J. L. Smithmeyer, and adopted by the joint committee of Congress, Mr. L. P. Smith read his paper on the classification of books (see p. 171), based upon the Paris system of the five great classes of theology, jurisprudence, sciences and arts, belles-lettres and history, with bibliography. These classes are denoted by A, E, I, O, U, and Y; the sub-classes by a, b, c, &c.; the divisions by 1, 2, 3, 4, &c., and the subdivisions by the symbols +, Δ, □, IV., V., VI., &c. Mr. Smith introduces some startling arrangements in working out his classification, but assures us that he would not have published his scheme had he not considered it better

than those of Dui and Perkins. No one seemed anxious to air his views upon classification, but novel-reading was the subject of a lengthened debate, starting from a paper by Mr. I. L. Beardsley (Cleveland Public School Library) on fiction in libraries. Mr. L. E. Jones (Bibliographical Bureau, U.S.) followed with his report on the cataloguing of the year, specially mentioning the Boston Athenæum catalogue, Dr. Billings' index-catalogue of the Surgeon-General's Office, vol. 2; the Watertown (Mass.) Public Library catalogue, single lines in dictionary form; the Uxbridge (Mass.) Public Library, on the Amherst plan: a dictionary-catalogue of eight years' additions to the Brookline (Mass.) Public Library, and some others. Charging-systems were then discussed by Mr. K. A. Lindenfelt (Milwaukee Public Library).

On Saturday, May 27, boys' and girls' reading was the subject of an investigation by Miss C. M. Hewins (Hartford Library Association), who had collected answers from about twenty-five of the leading libraries on what they were doing for juvenile readers. After an address by Mr. Green on the best methods of securing co-operation between libraries and schools, the conference adjourned.

H. R. T.

LIBRARY NOTES.

ATHENS.—It is announced from Athens, by the *Athenæum* correspondent, that two professors of the University of Athens, who have been sent to collect manuscripts from the Thessalian convents, have collected no fewer than 500 MSS. from the large convent on Mount Pindus. They will shortly be sent to the National Library, and will considerably increase its store of MSS., which at present numbers only five or six hundred.

FRANKFURT-ON-THE-MAINE.—A marble bust of Lessing was unveiled at Frankfurt on the 26th of September. The monument is placed in front of the City Library, a site which is rendered the more appropriate by Lessing's relations to the character of the building, and by the fact that his intellectual activity was so intimately connected with the world of books and erudition. Such is the comment made by Johannes Proelss, who celebrates the occasion by contributing an article to the *Frankfurter Zeitung* on "Lessing, der Bibliothekar." The article concludes with the remark that "To-day, when before the Library at Frankfurt a monument is unveiled to the apostle of tolerance, is a fitting occasion to recall the fact that for the most lasting products of his activity in this direction we are indebted to that period of his life which Lessing spent as librarian in quiet Wolfenbüttel."

GLASGOW.—The first of a series of articles upon Stirling's Library appeared in the *Glasgow Herald* of October 10th. We understand that the articles are written by Mr. Thomas Mason, the librarian.

LIVERPOOL.—The Committee of the Liverpool Free Public Library have made arrangements for the delivery, during the next three months, of the following courses of free lectures in their new lecture hall. These lectures are quite distinct from the usual popular series (generally about 40), delivered in January, February, and March, and which will follow in due course. Three lectures by J. Campbell Brown, D.Sc., on "The Chemical Elements;" eight lectures by Dr. Clarke Robinson, on "English Literature;" and four lectures by T. Hall Caine, on "Shakspere."

LONDON: BRABY AND CO.'S LIBRARY.—On September 18th, at a concert given in the Workmen's Club Room at Messrs. Braby and Co.'s Works, Deptford, a timepiece was presented to our member, Mr. George R. Humphery, in recognition of the services which he has for so many years rendered as Hon. Secretary of the Library and Club. Mr. Moore, in making the presentation, observed that the testimonial had not emanated from the office, but was a spontaneous offering from the whole of the workmen.

LONDON: BRITISH MUSEUM.—It has been decided to print the General Map Catalogue, and, indeed, the printing has already proceeded as far as the middle of the letter B. The catalogue is being printed straight through, and it is intended to print the whole. The work is under the editorial supervision of Professor Douglas.

LONDON: SOUTH LONDON FREE LIBRARY.—The overseers of Lambeth seem to persist in their ill-considered policy of enforcing by distraint the payment of rates by this library. This is done notwithstanding that the library is certified to be exempt by the Registrar of Friendly Societies, on the ground that the library has instituted a charge of a penny a volume on the loan of books. Another public meeting to consider the question was held at the institution on the 2nd inst., when a resolution was passed condemning the action of the rating authorities of Lambeth. The resolution was moved by the Rev. E. M. Geldart.

MANCHESTER.—We understand that Mr. C. W. Sutton, Librarian of the Manchester Free Public Libraries, is to lecture on Sunday, Oct. 15, in the Ancoats Lecture Course, on the "Treasures of the Free Libraries."

PAISLEY.—On the 23rd of September Sir Peter Coats formally handed over to the Provost and Members of the Town Council the new buildings which he has erected in extension of the Free Library and Museum, for which Paisley already stood indebted to his liberality. In the evening a conversazione was held, and among the speakers were Sir Peter Coats and the Marquis of Bute.

The additions consist of a new reference library, a museum, picture and sculpture galleries, and other apartments. It was on the same day, twelve years ago, that Sir Peter Coats had handed over the original buildings, and the success of the institution then established has been so great as to require all the additional accommodation now provided, though it covers an area almost twice

as large as that of the older buildings. It may be worth while to observe that as the ground upon the site of the new buildings rises rapidly towards the back, those buildings have been so arranged as to rise with it, in order to avoid the expense of deep excavations, as well as the disadvantages of sunk buildings. The result is that the floors of the new portion of the Museum and Reference Library are on the same level as the gallery of the old Museum.

PHILADELPHIA.—The late Mr. Lucas Hirst, a Philadelphia lawyer, has left nearly the whole of his fortune, valued at 180,000 dollars, for the purpose of establishing a free law library in that city. Another library bequest is also announced, Mrs. S. Russell, of Middletown, Conn., having given a sum of 40,000 dollars to the Russell Free Library.

RUSSIA.—Among several of the Russian imperial palaces which it is proposed to give up for public use, is the residence built for Alexander I, at Taganrog. This is shortly to be handed over to the municipal authorities of that town, who will devote part of it to receive the public library, and convert the remaining space into a museum for the reception of local antiquities, which are abundant and interesting, on account of the numerous Greek colonies which formerly existed in the district.

TWICKENHAM.—The Free Library was opened to the public on Monday, October 2nd, without ceremony, the owner of the Town Hall, Sir Charles Freake, having placed a suite of rooms at the disposal of the Committee until their funds permit of the erection of a permanent library building.

VIENNA.—The Prefect and Librarian of the Imperial Oriental Academy, Prof. P. Jos. Piqueré, died at Vienna on June 14th, aged 78 years.

The photographs taken of the members attending our Cambridge Meeting may, we think it is generally admitted, be considered very fairly successful. The printed key, indeed, is lacking somewhat in cataloguing exactness, and it is certainly odd to see that the key is most deficient in dealing with the local celebrities.

A very pleasant and intelligent account of our Cambridge Meeting appears in the *Fifeshire Journal* of September 28th, under the signature "T. M."

M. Emile Chatelain has been deputed by the French Government to visit the chief public libraries in Italy, with a view to study Latin classical manuscripts, and to make photographic copies of the more noteworthy among them.

The military spirit appears to be making further progress in this country. Even in Mr. Quaritch's catalogues there are traces of it. His "Catalogue of Works on Bibliography" (No. 344), which is now before us, contains on page 877 this important addition to the

list of qualifications necessary in a good librarian. A note to Edwards's "Memoirs of Libraries" states that "the keeping of a large collection of books in order, especially when for sale, requires the same qualities necessary to a good military commander-in-chief." *Especially when for sale* is particularly happy.

The *World* recommends our association to meet next year at Canterbury in order to introduce the art of cataloguing to the authorities of the Municipal Free Library. It seems that they have recently issued a catalogue (which has not yet fallen under our notice) in which H. Esmond and A. Pendennis figure as the writers of certain of Thackeray's novels. The first volume of the *Histoire Universelle* is under "Jacques," and the second under the name of that voluminous author "Suite." The classification is equally original, *Robinson Crusoe* being arranged with biographies, and Ainsworth's *Tower of London* with guide-books.

LIBRARY CATALOGUES AND REPORTS.

Katalog der Handschriften der Königl. öffentlichen Bibliothek zu Dresden. Im Auftrage der Generaldirection der Königlichen Sammlungen für Kunst und Wissenschaft bearbeitet von Dr. Franz Schnorr von Carolsfeld, K. Bibliothekar. I Band (enthaltend die Abtheilungen A–D und F–H). Leipzig: B. G. Teubner, 1882. 8vo, pp. xv.–648. Price 15*s*.

The number of the MSS. belonging to the Dresden Royal Library is estimated at 6,500. The classes described in this volume are, A, theology; B, theology, law, natural history, &c.; C, letters, military; D, Greek and Roman classics and commentators; F, geography, chronology, universal history, Spanish, French, and Italian history; G, history of North Europe, Poland, Silesia, &c.; H, German history. The MSS. are very carefully catalogued, with notes.

Katalog der Bibliothek des Deutschen Reichtages [herausgegeben von Dr. Aug. Potthast, Bibliothekar]. Berlin, 1882. 8vo, lvi.–1432. Price £1.

Although dating only from 1872 the library of the German Reichstag has already become the chief special collection of political literature in the Empire. The present volume shows the extent and value of the library, which now extends to about 30,000 volumes, chiefly relating to law, government, political economy, history, trade and manufactures, &c. The compilation of this catalogue, with its very elaborate classification and careful description of the books, reflects honour upon even the name of Dr. Potthast.

Katalog der Bibliothek des Königl. Ministeriums der öffentlichen Arbeiten. Berlin: Carl Heymann's Verlag, 1882. La. 8vo, viii.–259. Price 8*s*.

The books are chiefly in the classes of law, politics, statistics, railway management, posts, telegraphs, architecture, engineering, &c. The titles are given in full. The classification is drawn up very carefully.

Derby Public Libraries. Catalogue and Classified Index of the Works and Miscellaneous Literature in the Reference Library. Compiled by Thomas Heath, Librarian and Curator. September, 1882. Derby, 8vo, pp. viii.–206.

The catalogue is one of authors and classified subjects in a single alphabet, but is distinguished from previous index-catalogues by the very considerable

number of references to essays and articles in periodicals, transactions, and collected works. The Specifications of Patents and the Derbyshire books will have separate catalogues. The number of references to the general reference library in the present catalogue amounts to between 50,000 and 60,000. We are glad to congratulate Mr. Heath on having produced a very laborious and valuable piece of work, which will be extremely useful even outside his own library.

Catalogue of the Books in the School Library, Malvern College. Leeds, 1881. 8vo, pp. 41.

An "atrocity."

Bethnal Green. Sixth Annual Report of the Committee of the Free Library, (The Hall), London Street, Bethnal Green. . . . London, 1882. 8vo, pp. 26 and wrapper.

The Library was opened to the public on Dec. 22, 1881, by the Lord Mayor. The committee report a year of continued prosperity. The number of volumes presented during the year was 2,516, and the total number in the library 8,624, exclusive of magazines. The receipts for the year were £511 19*s.* 1*d.* Some tables are appended to the report.

St. Helens. Fifth Annual Report of the Committee of the St. Helens Free Public Library. 4to, pp. 3.

This, the first printed Report of the Library, announces that the issues in the Lending Department were 59,462, and in the Reference Department 1,827, without counting visits to the reading-room. The Library has been open 51 Sundays during the year and the average attendance was 87·9 per Sunday. During the year 1,388 volumes have been added, making a total of 7,930.

NOTICES OF BIBLIOGRAPHIES, ETC.

The Geological Record for 1878: an account of the works on geology, mineralogy, and palæontology, published during the year, with supplements for 1874–7; edited by William Whitaker and W. H. Dalton. London: Taylor and Francis, 1882. 8vo, pp. xxxi.–496. Subscription price 10*s.* 6*d.*

The titles of the books, pamphlets, and articles in periodicals and transactions, supplied by forty-four contributors, are arranged in the following classes, each with a special sub-editor: 1, stratigraphical and descriptive geology; 2, physical geography; 3, applied and economic geology; 4, petrology; 5, mineralogy; 6, palæontology; 7, maps and sections; 8, miscellaneous and general; 9, supplements, &c. The notes are brief and to the point, and the practical value of the work to scientific students is very great. No less than 3,530 entries are recorded, being 850 more than the highest number in any of the four volumes previously issued. The increase is largely owing to the exertions of Mr. Dalton, whose name is now joined on the title page to that of Mr. Whitaker.

The need of a Free Library for Hull: an address delivered at the Royal Institution, Hull, by A. K. Rollit, LL.D., D.C.L. Printed and published in pursuance of resolutions passed by those present at the Royal Institution, and of the Committee formed to obtain a Public Library for Hull. Hull: *Eastern Morning News Co.*, Whitefriarsgate, 1882. 8vo, pp. 29.

We hope this appeal to the ratepayers of Hull may effect its laudable purpose.

On the classification of books: a paper read before the American Library Association, May, 1882, by Lloyd P. Smith, librarian of

the Library Company of Philadelphia. Boston: Library Bureau, [U.S.], 1882. 8vo, pp. x, 11–70.

Noticed in the account of the Cincinnati meeting on p. 166. Mr. Melvil Dui's subject index has been reproduced, with the addition of nine hundred new catch words, some of which have been taken from Mr. Perkins' "Rational Classification."

Eloge de M. de Saulcy; par J. Schlumberger. Genève: Fick, 1882. 8vo, pp. 56.

Contains a very complete bibliography of the works of the learned archæologist, including 163 numismatic articles, 33 of history and travels, 57 of archæology, 56 of philology, and 39 miscellaneous.

Verzeichniss von Schriften aus dem Gebiete der historischen Hilfswissenschaften, welche von 1857 bis 1882 im deutschen Buchhandel erschienen sind, nebst Angabe vieler werthvoller älterer Werke. Genealogie, Adels und Hofgeschichte, Ritterorden, Heraldik, Numismatik, Sphragistik. In 14 Rubriken systematisch zusammengestellt von O. Gracklauer u. m. e. ausführl Materienregister versehen. Leipzig: Gracklauer, 1882. 8vo, 100 pp., price 3*s.*

Useful as containing other than recent works. The classification is not particularly good.

Deutscher Journal-Katalog für 1882-3. Zusammenstellung von 1562 Titeln deutscher Zeitschriften, systematisch in 44 Rubriken geordnet von O. Gracklauer. 16 verb. und verm. Aufl. Leipzig: Gracklauer, 1882. 8vo, pp. 43, price 1*s.*

The modest total of 1,562 German newspapers contrasts forcibly with the number issued in the United States.

Praktischer Wegweiser durch die ornithologische Litteratur; herausgegeben von Th. Fuendeling. Hameln: Schmidt und Suckert, 1882. 8vo, pp. 14, price 6*d.*

Like many other books the title of this publication is the best part of it. It is really only a booksellers' list of a few German books, chiefly relating to poultry and song-birds.

Usancen-Codex für Buchhandler und Geschaftsverwandte, mit Berücksichtigung der Rechtsfragen und Rechtsverhältnisse alphabetisch geordnet von E. Wengler. Zweite Auflage völlig neu bearbeitet von Karl Fr. Pfau. Leipzig: C. A. Koch's Verlag, 1882. Sm. 8vo, pp. iv.–84, price 1*s.* 6*d.*

Gives in alphabetical form brief explanations of the technicalities of German bookselling.

Urkundenlehre: Katechismus der Diplomatik, Paläographie, Chronologie und Sphragistik; von Dr. Friedrich Leist. Leipzig: J. J. Weber (Illustrierte Katechismen). Sm. 8vo, pp. xii.–305, with 10 plates. Price 4*s.*

An extremely instructive little volume, combining some of the useful features of the works of Chassant and Sir H. Nicolas' "Chronology of History," with many interesting peculiarities of its own. The materials employed by the scribes of the middle ages, the styles of writing at various epochs, the conventional forms of address, the numerous methods of computing dates, the different varieties of seals, &c., are all described in a systematic and accurate manner. The illustrations consist of folded tables of facsimiles of chrisms, monograms, and signatures

of German monarchs and notable persons taken from original documents in the Royal Archives at Munich.

Catalogo ragionato delle opere di viticoltura ed enologia pubblicate in Italia o in italiano dal principio della stampa sino a tutto l'anno 1881; da Giacomo Sormanni. Milano: Gernia, 1882. Prima dispensa. 8vo, pp. 16.

This promises to be a useful publication, the Italian literature on the subjects of wine cultivation and wine making being of considerable extent.

Saggio biografico e bibliografico su Giovanni Botero, di Pietro Orsi. Mondovi: tip. Fracchia, 1882. 8vo.

Botero's writings are chiefly fiction and parables.

Nuovo catalogo delle opere edite e inedite dell' abate Francesco Cancellieri, con un ragionamento su la vita e gli scritti del medesimo; dal conte Aless. Moroni. Roma: tip. Artigianelli, 1882. 8vo.

The writings of Cancellieri (*b.* 1751, *d.* 1826), called by his fellow-countrymen the new Varro, are very numerous, and chiefly devoted to archæological subjects. He was for some time librarian to Card. Leo Antonelli, and was appointed in 1802 director of the printing department of the Propaganda College.

Progetto di raccogliere tutti gli oggetti appartenenti all' Ariosto in una sala della Biblioteca di Ferrara; di A. Gennari. Ferrara: stabil. Bresciani, 1882. 8vo, pp. 11.

Reprinted from the *Gazzetta Ferrarese*, 5 and 6 Nov., 1881.

L'Archivio di san Giulio d' Orta, e la contessa Adelaide di Torino: rapporto a S.E. il ministro della publica istruzione; dall' avv. Antonio Rusconi. Novara: tip. Miglio, 1882. 8vo, pp. 39.

Privately printed.

Brinkman's Alphabetische Lijst van Boeken, Land Kaarten en verder en den Boekhandel voorkomende Artikelen, die in het jaar 1881 in het Koninkrijk der Nederlanden uitgeven of herdrukt zijn, benevens opgave van den uitgever, den prijs en eenige aanteenkeningen; alsmede een wetenschappelijk register. Amsterdam: C. L. Brinkman, 1882. 8vo, pp. xl.–164. Price 1fl.

The thirty-sixth issue of this yearly list of Dutch publications.

Kalauz az orsz. magy. Iparmüvészeti Muzeum részéröl rendezett Könyvkiallitáshoz. Budapest, 1882. La. 8vo, pp. vi.–266. Woodcuts and chromolithograph facsimiles.

The catalogue of a collection of documents, manuscripts, and printed books relating to Hungary, which was exhibited at the beginning of the year in the galleries of the Academy of Buda-Pesth. The most remarkable feature of the exhibition consisted of the MSS. formerly belonging to the library of Mathias Corvinus. One hundred and seven books with his arms are still known to exist in different European libraries, and no less than seventy were brought together on this occasion, among them being the thirteen codices presented by the Sultan Abdul Hamid II., in acknowledgment for Hungarian sympathy with Turkey during the last war with Russia, and now in the library of the Royal University at Buda-Pesth. The printed books included an almost complete series of Hungarian works from 1535 to the beginning of the eighteenth century, and about 2,000 in number.

Musée des Arts Industriels. Visite à l'exposition des livres au Palais de l'Académie; par A. de Szemere. Budapest, 1882. Sm. 8vo, pp. 46, with woodcut of the arms of Corvinus.

The following was the arrangement of this extremely interesting exhibition :— 1, Magyar MSS.; 2, MSS. connected with Hungarian history; 3, MSS. executed by Hungarian artists or copyists; 4, books from the library of Mathias Corvinus, King of Hungary; 5, the most famous MSS. of the chief Hungarian libraries; 6, incunabula; 7, books printed in Hungary from 1473 to 1711; the same, from 1711 to 1848; 9, Hungarian amateurs; 10, book ornaments; 11, ancient bindings; 12, modern bindings; 13, printing press of the present day; 14, Magyar reviews and newspapers.

The *Bibliographer*, we notice, has given currency to a very slipshod and blundering paragraph, full of the most obvious errors, professing to give the age of the oldest existing English newspapers. It is amusing to observe that this precious piece of bibliography comes from *Land and Water!* and that our contemporary conscientiously acknowledges its obligation.

Mr. L. E. Jones, editor and publisher of *The Publishers' Weekly*, (New York), has established a "Bibliographical Bureau," for indexing and cataloguing, and for furnishing information about any particular book or about books upon any subject.

A list of works on charity and kindred subjects, by Mr. J. N. Larned is included in the "Handbook of Charity Organization, by S. A. Gurteen" (Buffalo, [U.S.], 1882, 8vo.)

A bibliography of publications issued up to the end of 1879 on the fishes of the Pacific Coast, by Mr. Theodore Gill, is included in the "Bulletin of the U.S. National Museum," No. 11. (1882).

The document entitled "Communication from the Secretary of State relating to the establishment of an International Bureau of Exchanges," (Washington: Government Printing Office, 1882, 8vo, pp. 113), contains a list of official publications issued by Congress and the U.S. departments between 1867 and 1881.

A list of the publications of Father Jean Xavier Gagarin, born at Moscow, Aug. 1, 1814, died at Paris, the 19th July last, is in the *Polybiblion* for August.

Dr. A. Schroeter's "Geschichte der Deutschen Homer-Uebersetzung in XVIII. Jahrhundert" (Jena: Costenoble) contains a tabular view of the translations of Homer issued between 1495 and 1881.

Il Bibliofilo for August–September contains an article on book-fairs in Germany, &c., by C. Arlia.

The *Archivio per lo studio delle tradizioni popolari*, which now appears every three months at Palermo (L. Pedone-Lauriel), under the editorship of Signori G. Pitrè and Salomone Marino, contains in its first number a "bibliografia demopsicologica." Each fasciculus is also accompanied with a bibliography of folklore.

A "studio biografico e bibliografico" has been prefixed by Signor A. Portioli to his new edition of the "Opere maccheroniche di

Merlin Coccai (*ps.* Teofilo Folengo) " which is now being published at Mantua (G. Mondovi). Seven parts have appeared. The work will be completed in 2 vols. (20 *fascicoli* at L. 0. 50.)

FORTHCOMING BIBLIOGRAPHIES, &c.

A new and enlarged edition of Westwood's " Bibliotheca Piscatoria," by Mr. T. Satchell, will be published by Messrs. W. Satchell & Co.

" The highways of literature, or what to read and how to read," by D. Pryde, LL.D., is announced by Messrs. W. P. Nimmo, of Edinburgh.

" Twenty years of a publisher's life," by A. Strahan, two vols., 8vo, with portraits and illustrations. (Messrs. Chatto and Windus.)

" Hints on catalogue-titles, index-entries, and some points in the care of books, with a vocabulary of terms and abbreviations used in connexion with autographs, books, maps, prints, and portraits, chiefly drawn from foreign catalogues;" by C. F. Blackburn. (Messrs. Sampson, Low & Co.)

An announcement of some new publications of the Publication Department of the A.L.A. may be seen on p. 165.

" Books for the young, a catalogue of the best juvenile literature, accompanied by annotations;" by Miss C. M. Hewins, of the Hartford Library. (Publishers' Weekly Office, N.Y.)

" Schools and libraries: their mutual relation, a symposium," edited by S. S. Green, librarian, Worcester Public Library. (Publishers' Weekly Office.)

" A reading diary of modern fiction," by F. Leypoldt. A new edition brought down to date. (Publishers' Weekly Office.)

" Readers and libraries: hints on right reading and the use of the library;" by W. E. Foster, librarian, Providence Public Library. (Publishers' Weekly Office.)

" The books of all time, a guide for the purchase of books, consisting of a selection of the standard English and American authors;" by F. Leypoldt and L. E. Jones. New edition, with a symposium on the choice of books and reading. (Publishers' Weekly Office.)

" The literature of knowledge." Vol. 1, History, a catalogue of the most trustworthy works for the study of literature, art, philosophy, history, biography, &c., with notes; by Prof. C. Kendall Adams. Vol. 2, Science, arranged on a similar plan; by Wm. C. Lane, of Harvard College Library. (Publishers' Weekly Office.)

" A history of English prose fiction, from Sir Thomas Malory to George Eliot," by Bayard Tuckerman, is advertised by Messrs. Putnam.

Messrs. Putnam will also issue during the season a second series of "The Best Reading," edited by Mr. L. E. Jones, and comprising priced and classified lists of select English and American publications for the five years ending December 31, 1882.

Mr. W. Sloane Kennedy's work on "John Greenleaf Whittier, his life, genius, and writings," the first written on the subject, will contain an exhaustive Whittier bibliography, and will be published by Mr. S. E. Cassino.

A new edition of Dr. O. W. Holmes's "Autocrat of the Breakfast Table," with preface and bibliographical notes by the author, is announced by Messrs. Houghton, Mifflin and Co., Boston.

The "Index to periodical literature" of Mr. W. F. Poole will be out in December. Messrs. J. R. Osgood and Co., of Boston, are the American publishers, and the printing is now in progress at the University Press of Cambridge (U.S.). It will make a handsome volume of 1,500 pages, and will be issued at 15 dols. (£3 3*s.* in this country). The co-operative feature in the compilation is said to have been completely successful, and the list of indexed periodicals larger than was promised. Some have had to be omitted (chiefly owing to the laxity of English contributors, we are ashamed to confess), but the additions will outnumber the omissions. A preliminary chapter is to contain a tabular view, in chronological order, of all the periodicals indexed, besides full lists of abbreviations, collaborateurs, &c. Mr. W. I. Fletcher is the associate-editor with Mr. Poole.

"Bibliographie des éditions originales d' auteurs français du XV^e^ au XVIII^e^ siècle; par Jules LePetit." Only a small edition will be printed by M. E. Maillet; the subscription price is 30 francs. The book is to form a handsome volume, uniform with Brunet's Manuel. A special feature will consist of about 300 facsimiles of the title-pages of the principal works described.

Mr. E. A. Petherick has nearly completed his "Bibliography of Australasia," upon which he has been at work for many years. The arrangement will be chronological and the work will include books, pamphlets, and articles in periodicals, &c., in all languages. A pamphlet by Alexander Dalrymple, relating to New Zealand, dated 1771, is the first separate work noticed.

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VOL. 3. NO. 11.] [*November* 15, 1882.

BIBLIOTHECA BODLEIANA

MONTHLY NOTES

OF THE

Library Association

of the United Kingdom.

Contents:—Official Notices—November Monthly Meeting: Paper by Mr. C. Pfoundes, "Japanese Libraries and Books"— Illustrated Art Catalogues — Library Notes—Library Catalogues and Reports—Notices of Bibliographies, &c.

The next MONTHLY MEETING of the Association will be held on Friday, December 1, at 8 p.m., at the London Institution, Finsbury Circus, when a Paper will be read entitled "A French Librarian on Librarianship," by Mr. H. R. TEDDER.

The Council have had before them the question of the action to be taken in consequence of the resolutions passed at Cambridge in reference to legislation for Public Free Libraries, and it has been arranged that the matter shall be specially considered at the January Council Meeting, so that any necessary steps may be taken in view of the next Session of Parliament.

The question of the future of MONTHLY NOTES will be considered at a special Council Meeting to be held on the 17th November.

The details of the proposed scheme for the Examination of Library Assistants will be considered at a special Council Meeting to be held on the 15th December.

We regret to have to announce that Mr. W. E. A. AXON has signified that he cannot accept the seat upon the Council to which he was elected (in his absence) at the Annual Meeting at Cambridge.

NOVEMBER MONTHLY MEETING.

THE Second Monthly Meeting of the Sixth Year of the Association was held at the London Institution, on Friday, November 3rd, at 8 p.m., Mr. HENRY BRADSHAW, V.P., in the chair.

The minutes of the last meeting having been read and confirmed, it was announced that the following gentlemen had joined the Association:—Mr. J. T. CARLETTI, Hon. Librarian of the Working Men's College, Great Ormond Street, W.C.; Mr. W. BEAMONT, Chairman of the Committee of the Warrington Museum, and Mr. T. G. RYLANDS, Member of the above Committee (reported by Mr. C. Madeley); Mr. W. HUTTON, Sub-Librarian of Stirling's and Glasgow Public Library (reported by Mr. F. T. Barrett); Mr. THOMAS BONNER, Librarian, Gosta Green Library (reported by Mr. Scarse).

The following gentlemen having been duly proposed and seconded at the previous meeting, were unanimously elected Members of the Association:—Mr. A. ALLCHIN and Mr. J. E. HODGSON, of London; Mr. J. A. WADE, of Hull; Mr. M. F. ROBERTS and Mr. C. PFOUNDES, of London.

The following gentlemen also were proposed by Mr. Madeley, and seconded by the Secretary, for election at the next Monthly Meeting:—Mr. Alderman WEBSTER, 33, Bridge Street, Warrington; and Mr. ROBERT DAVIES, Birchdale, Warrington.

The Chairman then called upon Mr. C. Pfoundes to read his Paper (of which we can only present an abstract) entitled

JAPANESE LIBRARIES AND BOOKS.

Japanese Literature, like other Oriental literatures, has, until recently, been a sealed book to us; but of late, explorers have found it to be a rich mine of material well worthy of investigation. Popular ideas frequently confound Chinese with Japanese, though, in fact, Chinese classical (not modern) literature is to the Japanese what the Greek and Latin classics are to us. It is convenient to divide the subject of Japanese books into two divisions:—(1.) Chinese or classical; (2.) Japanese or indigenous. The modern literature, consisting of translations of our technical and educational works, is for the present purpose passed over.

Chinese books were known in Japan three centuries before our era, but it was not until the fourth century, A.D., that Chinese literature was studied to any extent.

Japanese Libraries.—About 770-780 A.D., Iso no Kami Iyetsugu, a man of some social status, collected books and placed them at the disposal of his compatriots. This is believed to be the first "Public Library." Between 782-805 A.D., Wake no Hiroyo collected a library of several thousand works. Sugawara no Michizane also founded an extensive library; and was afterwards apotheosized as the patron of students.

The number of wealthy men and of high officials who founded libraries, to which students had free access, is very considerable

throughout all subsequent Japanese history. In A.D. 1240, a library was established at Kanagawa, by Hojo Aki toki, and was used as a school for nine generations. In 1603 A.D., Tokugawa Iyevasu ordered a Library and School to be established, and in 1630 A.D., one was successfully founded in Yedo, that still exists, but was removed to the vicinity of the Temple of Confucius. Before this (in 1608 A.D.) types were in use, and in 1614 copper plates were used. Printing was used in 749 A.D. to reproduce Buddhist prayers, but 1301 A.D. is the date that is received as the real introduction of printed books.

The numerous feudal chieftains cultivated literature, and every provincial centre was the seat of schools where extensive libraries were frequently collected. Books, therefore, were plentiful centuries ago; and are now most abundant among all classes. The ravages of fire, and the by no means durable nature of the paper of the older books, as well as of the cheap modern article, have tended to destroy them, but there have always remained very large collections among private persons.

Circulating libraries exist in every centre of population, however small, and contain the popular literature, as well as the standard works. The "Mudie" of Japan sends round his assistants from house to house exchanging books. Poor scholars were frequently employed, and young men of good education and attractive manners were preferred; oftentimes the occupation was taken up in order to gain admission into the houses of the nobility.

Japanese Bibliography.—Catalogues of Books, Lists of Authors, and even Catalogues of Catalogues are numerous and bulky. The following six catalogues are the principal lists of standard works and authors:—Gun-sho Ichi Ran, 6 vols.; I-Koku Sho, 16 vols.; Kin Dai Sho (List of Novelists), 1 vol; Sho Mei Ka (Names of Authors), 5 vols.; Mei Ka Hen Sho, 3 vols; Kin Koku (later works), 2 vols. In these Japanese catalogues the works are usually classified something in the following order:—

Catalogues; Encyclopædias; Mythology and Antiquity; Ancient History; Shinto (or Ancient Cult), History, &c.; Buddhist; Chronology; Mediæval History; Chinese Classics; Japanese Literature; Japanese Poetry; Dictionaries of Chinese Characters, and their Meanings; Vocabularies, Syllabaries; Grammar, Syntax, Poetical Composition, &c.; Chinese Poetry; Japanese Poetry, 31-syllable and other; Drama; Natural History—Flora; Fauna; Rocks and Minerals; Agriculture; Topography, Maps, &c.; Topography, Itinerary; Biography: Numismatics; Caligraphy (an important and extensive item); Art; Medicine; Medical Botany; Botany, Ran (or Dutch); Kan (or Chinese); Theology; Ethics; Etiquette; Costume; Government; Mechanics; Artizans', Carpenters' and other Mechanics' Trades; Wit; Illustrations of Scenery, &c.; Fiction (Love and Murder, Loyalty to Chieftains, Revenge, &c.).

It may, perhaps, be gleaned from this brief sketch, that Japanese Bibliography is no limited subject, and it also appears

that the people are systematic in their literary arrangements. There is a very considerable collection of Japanese books already in the British Museum, including a number of the writer's, and a catalogue is in course of compilation (by the eminent sinologue, Professor Douglas), but it does not represent a tithe of the literature; indeed, the popular literature is not represented at all.

A vote of thanks was passed to Mr. Pfoundes for his paper, and the meeting then adjourned.

ILLUSTRATED ART CATALOGUES.

THE idea of illustrated catalogues of Fine Art Exhibitions is not by any means new; it has, however, in recent years received a great impulse from the facility and cheapness of various photo-mechanical reproducing processes, which a dozen years ago, even if known in theory, had not yet found practical application.

The initiative in publications of this kind was taken by the French. As early as 1808 the painter Landon began to publish in Paris illustrated catalogues of the Salons, adding thereto reproductions of those new works of the French school, which, from some reason or other, did not form part of the exhibition. In his catalogues, he gave an explanation of the subjects, a general review of the Salon, and biographical notices of such artists as had died during the lapse of time since the previous exhibition. The exhibitions then took place every two years. During his lifetime Landon published eight catalogues (viz., in 1808, 1810, 1812, 1814, 1817, 1821 and 1824), some in two parts, the others in one. After his death, M. Antony Béraud carried on his undertaking, and published four other catalogues of the same kind, in 1827, 1831, 1833, and 1834.

All these, however, contained only copies made by designers and engravers other than the artists themselves; and even these copies were few in number, compared to the quantity of works exhibited each time in the Salons, being from sixty to one hundred and thirty in each catalogue, out of from one to two thousand pictures. The size of the engravings was, however, very convenient, it being an 8vo.

Later on, illustrated catalogues of Fine Art Exhibitions appeared at Milan, from 1837 to 1840, with a small number of engravings on copper, and finally, the compilers of "La France littéraire" published, in 1840, the "Album du Salon," with forty lithographs, reproduced from the designs of the artists themselves. The size of this was a 4to, which was scarcely suitable for a catalogue. After this, no other analogous publications appeared until the Boetzel Album was brought out in 1865–70. The editor of this album, M. Boetzel, was an engraver on wood; he published his illustrated catalogues of the Salons without any text, with wood engravings executed by himself and other French xylographers from the original drawings of the artists. But his catalogues contained still fewer copies than those of M. Landon, only fifty each year, and their size, a small oblong folio, was inconvenient.

It must be observed, that the mechanical means of reproduction, so numerous in the present day, did not then exist, and those employed by M. Landon and M. Boetzel were very slow and costly: in the one case, engraving on copper; in the other, engraving on wood.

Their catalogues, consequently, did not possess all the qualities requisite for publications of this sort; they could not be speedily produced, nor could they be sold cheaply, which prevented their being widely circulated.

The same thing may be remarked of the first attempts at similar publications in Russia. The Association of Artists of St. Petersburg began by publishing, in 1869–70, an "Artistic Autograph of the Exhibition of the Academy of the Fine Arts," with lithographs executed, for the most part, from the original designs of the artists. The plates were sufficiently numerous (more than a hundred each year), especially if regard be had to the small number of works annually exhibited at the Academy—from three hundred and fifty to three hundred and eighty. These plates included not only painting and sculpture, like most of the French catalogues, but also drawing and architecture. The form, however, was more inconvenient even than that of Boetzel, and the means of reproduction had not yet attained the perfection of the present mechanical methods.

Later, the *Société des Expositions Ambulantes* published in 1873–4 two illustrated catalogues of its yearly exhibitions, with etched engravings, executed in part by the artists themselves. There were twenty-seven or twenty-eight of these plates a-year, a number which corresponded well enough with that of the works exhibited, varying from forty-five to seventy. The size of the leaves, on which sometimes several plates were arranged, was not inconvenient—a small 4to. The means of reproduction were, however, very slow, and did not permit of many proofs being taken, for which latter reason the publication became extremely rare, almost immediately after its appearance.

The first who applied mechanical means of reproduction to illustrating exhibition catalogues were the English. Seven years ago, in 1875, Mr. Henry Blackburn published his first "Academy Notes," in London, with illustrations produced by means of phototype or zincography, and inserted in the text.

His first catalogue contained only forty plates, the second more than one hundred, and the following ones as many as a hundred and fifty out of from seven to eight hundred pictures exhibited at the Academy. They were chiefly facsimiles from the original designs of the artists.

Besides the "Academy Notes," Mr. Blackburn undertook to publish illustrated catalogues of different galleries and exhibitions, such as the "South Kensington," in 1877 (with 70 illustrations), the "National Gallery," in 1877–78 (in two parts, with more than 240 illustrations), the "Dudley Notes," in 1878 (with over 60 illustrations), the "Grosvenor Notes," since 1878 (with 60 or more illustrations a-year), and these were all of a very convenient size, in 8vo, and of a very low price, one shilling each.

The illustrated catalogue of the English Section of the Fine Arts at the Universal Exhibition of Paris, in 1878, published also by Mr. Blackburn, attracted general attention. From that time analogous publications have appeared periodically in France and Germany.

From the year 1879, M. F. G. Dumas began to publish in Paris illustrated catalogues of the Salons. The first year he offered to the public more than a hundred reproductions of the original designs of the artists, and as many more in the supplement; altogether more than two hundred facsimiles out of three thousand pictures exhibited at the Salon. The following year, the number of plates rose to three hundred and seventy, the number of exhibited works of painting and sculpture having itself increased to four thousand seven hundred. Of these illustrations, however, only two hundred belonged to M. Dumas, the remaining one hundred and seventy coming from another company, which had at first the intention of also publishing a similar catalogue, but which, later on, united its work to that of its competitor. The third year, M. Dumas brought out three hundred and fifty reproductions (out of over three thousand works exhibited at the Salon), and, as supplement for 1880–1, one hundred and seventy more plates. During the present year he has collected still more, nearly four hundred copies (out of about three thousand eight hundred works exhibited at the Salon). At first, he had, like Mr. Blackburn, inserted his facsimiles in the text; but, from the first year, he was aware of the disadvantages of this system, for, sometimes the text, and sometimes the drawings, hindered the progress of the work. He accordingly resolved to print each part separately. The engravings were now placed in chance order, according to the arrival of the originals, although M. Dumas himself found it would have been better to arrange them according to the place occupied by these works in the Salon, than even in the alphabetical order of the artists' names.

In the course of the present year, besides M. Dumas' publication, another similar one has appeared in France; it is edited by M. Bernard, and contains two hundred and fifty illustrations, likewise executed from the original designs of the artists.

For four years a catalogue has also been published in Paris by M. Enault, containing forty *photogravures* each year. It is, however, more costly than the works of M. Dumas and M. Bernard. The publications of M. Dumas, sold at from three-and-a-half to four-and-a-half francs each, were distributed in a large number of copies, and the first volumes have already become so rare, as to be much dearer and to necessitate reprinting. Encouraged by the success of his enterprise, M. Dumas has brought out other works of the same kind. Thus, he published an illustrated catalogue of the Historical Exhibition of Belgian Art (1830–50), and of the modern Museum of Brussels, with two hundred plates. He is preparing, besides, catalogues of the Museum of the Luxembourg, with one hundred and fifty illustrations, and of that of the Louvre, with four hundred reproductions.

In 1881 similar catalogues appeared in Berlin, but with the engravings inserted in the text, as in the English editions; the first catalogue contained one hundred and eighty-eight reproductions, out of one thousand works exhibited at Berlin.

In undertaking the present work, the catalogues of M. Dumas were kept chiefly in view, though it has been necessary to choose a somewhat larger form—that of an imperial 8vo—owing to some more complicated subjects which would not admit of too great a reduction. Thanks to the courteous assistance of M. Winberg, director of the Agency for the Manufacture of State Papers, and of M. Nenninger, his assistant, facility has been given for executing this work as rapidly and as cheaply as possible; otherwise, the price of a book of seventeen and a half sheets, with two hundred and fifty illustrations, could not have been fixed at six francs, that is, as moderate a price as that of the French catalogues.

(Extract from the Illustrated Catalogue of the Fine Art Section of the National Exhibition of Moscow, of 1882, compiled by N. Sobko, and edited by M. Botkine. Published at St. Petersburg, 1882.)

LIBRARY NOTES.

BIRMINGHAM.—The Committee of the Birmingham (Old) Library have issued a circular to their Proprietors and Subscribers with regard to the proposed extension of the Library premises. They announce that the Librarian has proposed a scheme which has met with the approval of the Committee. The proposed alterations involve some re-construction of the existing premises and the addition of another storey on the present building. The new rooms, besides providing the needed wall-space, would enable the Library to supply, in a modified degree, club privileges to those willing to pay for the additional accommodation. It is proposed to add a large coffee, chess and smoke-room for gentlemen, a parlour for ladies, a refreshment-room, and lavatories and cloak-rooms. Light refreshments only will be supplied at the lowest possible prices. The cost of the alterations would, it is estimated, be covered by an income of from £150 to £200 a-year, and to raise this sum it is proposed to charge a separate subscription of half-a-guinea a-year for the suggested additional privileges. It will not be uninteresting to observe the success of this experiment.

HIGH WYCOMBE.—The formal presentation of the Free Library, which has been established by Mr. J. O. Griffits, Q.C., at High Wycombe, to the Corporation, took place on Thursday, November 2nd, and the occasion was celebrated by a luncheon, at which Lord Carrington presided, and by an evening reception. Mr. Griffits was prevented by severe illness from being present to witness the consummation of the efforts which are briefly recorded in the address presented by the trustees of the Endowment Fund:—

"To the Mayor, Aldermen, and Burgesses of the Borough of Chepping Wycombe.

"The Trustees and Committee of the Free Library have the satisfaction to-day of placing in your hands for the free use of the inhabitants of the town for ever,

this valuable Institution, founded by the generosity of one of her sons, and completed and endowed by the united efforts of all.

"The building, with librarian's residence attached, was, as you are aware, presented by Mr. J. O. Griffits, Q.C., at a cost of about £2,500, and with it several hundred vols. of books and choice pictures. He also gave your Committee the Turkey and Brussels carpets, the crimson curtains, 108 chairs, and the platform scenery to furnish the Town Hall, and which are mostly in use here to-day. These, besides being very useful to the townspeople, produce an annual income to the Free Library, and are handed over with it to the Corporation; their cost is estimated at £150. The Library rooms were furnished, and some alterations made by public liberality, at an outlay of about £300. There are nearly 1,300 vols. of books now on the shelves, all of which have been given to the Institution, as well as a magic lantern and other valuable articles.

"Mr. Griffits commenced the Endowment Fund by a donation of £250, and his friend, Mr. Luke Turner, followed with £25, both in the year 1877; the fund reached £1,000 at the public meeting in the Board Schools, presided over by Lord Carrington, in November, 1880. After an interval public interest was re-awakened, and, in March last, twenty-one gentlemen volunteered to become trustees, and take the burden of maintaining the Library from the shoulders of the founder. Some active minds planned a "Fancy Fair and Summer Fête;" the ladies heartily took it up; Lady Carrington as heartily supported it; and a grand result was achieved, more than £1,400 being added to the fund in three days. Liberal offers of help stimulated the Committee and the ladies to a further effort, and, on the memorable 24th October, the fund was virtually completed by the proceeds of the bazaar and the generous donations of friends, the amounts received from these two sources being upwards of £400.

"This gratifying result enables the trustees to relinquish their seven years' trusteeship in less than seven months with the trust fully completed, and a balance of £100 in hand for the Corporation to form a contingent fund. Such a success is encouraging for our town in every way, and, in the midst of their rejoicings to-day, the Trustees and Committee have but one regret—that their friend and fellow-townsman who inspired them to this work is prevented, through illness, from sharing in their triumph, and they express a fervent hope that Providence may be pleased speedily to restore him to his accustomed health and strength.

" Signed on behalf of the Trustees and Committee,

"J. G. Peace, Chairman.
"Thos. Theed, Treasurer.
"C. W. Raffety, } Honorary
"C. T. Baines, } Secretaries.

"The Guildhall, Wycombe,
"November 2nd, 1882."

London: Braby and Co.'s Library.—Mr. Humphery, Hon. Sec. of this Library, has issued a circular, inviting those Libraries which may be burdened with useless books to send them to him for the use of their Library. He promises that if more are received than are needed there, to offer them to other factories, in order to induce the formation of new Workmen's Libraries. We should be sorry to say anything to damp Mr. Humphery's unflagging zeal and energy, but we fear that the books which Mr. Harrison and other librarians find "useless" and "obsolete," will scarcely offer the most nutritious or the most attractive pabulum to Mr. Humphery's friends.

London: London Library.—The Committee have issued a list of extinct periodicals of the last and present century, which they already have upon their shelves, and announce their willingness, if they receive sufficient practical assistance by donations, to add

to the number, so as to form that Special Library of Periodicals desiderated by Mr. W. J. Thoms.

LONDON: SOUTH LONDON FREE LIBRARY.—The Council of the South London Free Library desiring to extend the lending library of the only free library south of the river, propose to open branch lending libraries in various parts of South London, if they can find shopkeepers willing to take charge of the books and to issue them for a reasonable payment. They will be glad to know of such shopkeepers, or others, and also to receive gifts of books and donations toward the expenses. At present, borrowers of books come several miles in many cases.

MANCHESTER.—The third of the Course of Lectures organised by the Ancoats Recreation Committee was delivered on Sunday afternoon, October 15th, by Mr. C. W. Sutton, the Chief Librarian of the Manchester Public Libraries, to a large and attentive audience, upon "The Treasures in the Free Libraries." In front of the platform a number of illustrated and other books were arranged for inspection, though Mr. Sutton observed that, in showing these books, he felt very much like the man who took a few bricks in order to give his friends an idea of the architectural style of his house.

NEW ZEALAND: AUCKLAND.—Sir George Grey, who has already presented a library to Cape Town, has now offered to present his valuable library to Auckland. The telegram announcing his intention bears date Wellington, August 19, and is as follows: "Auckland has now a University, I am anxious that the munificent gift thus made to the city should be supplemented by all useful accessories. I therefore wish, on such an occasion, to give effect to an intention I have long entertained by giving to the citizens of Auckland my library, if the Mayor and Corporation for the time being will act as trustees, on the same simple trust as the library I gave to Cape Town is held."

NEWCASTLE-UPON-TYNE.—The Literary and Philosophical Society have issued a very interesting programme of Lectures for the Session 1882-3. Four courses, three of them Educational, will be delivered, two of the latter being in connexion with the Cambridge and Durham University Extension Scheme. The annual subscription of one guinea entitles the subscriber to attend all the lectures.

OXFORD: BODLEIAN LIBRARY.—We have received from Bodley's Librarian a copy of the "Compendious Cataloguing-Rules for the Author-Catalogue of the Bodleian Library." The Rules are 54 in number, and are printed on stout paper, and upon one side, in sheet form. Of their relation to our Cataloguing-Rules we propose to speak elsewhere, and will only add here that Mr. Nicholson writes: "Libraries which want a copy can get it by *post-carding* us."

READING.—The Committee of the Reading Public Library have, we are informed by Mr. Cotgreave, decided to adopt his Indicator.

SALFORD: ROYAL MUSEUM AND LIBRARY.—The Committee have arranged for a course of popular lectures during the winter, intended to show the use and value of the books in the Library, objects in the Museum, and paintings in the Galleries as aids to study. Mr. Axon has acted as Secretary to the Lecture Committee. The first lecture of the first course was delivered on Wednesday evening, October 25th, by Mr. Alderman Davies, Chairman of the Committee, and was entitled "From Jerusalem to the Jordan Valley." The lectures are delivered in the Reading-room of the Public Library, and admission is free.

A few days after the issue of our last MONTHLY NOTES we received the *Library Journal* for September, which contains on its first page, singularly enough, some remarks almost identical with those in our October article on the A.L.A. and the Cincinnati Conference. After mentioning that the L.A.U.K. was the direct consequence of the Philadelphia Conference of 1876, Mr. Cutter goes on to say:—"But the child has outgrown its parent. Its rolls show twice as many members as ours, and the interest taken in it evidently is still growing, while the interest of our own members begins to show signs of falling off. We have formerly alluded to one cause of this decay—the impossibility of holding Monthly Meetings in so large a country as ours; another cause is the difficulty of collecting *all* of our members at any Annual Meeting; a third cause is the necessary want of that novelty in the papers and discussions which gave a keen interest to our first years."

We have received from America the first number of *The Wheelman*, a very handsomely printed Monthly Magazine, which "is to hold the same relation to bicycling weeklies that the literary magazine holds to the newspaper press." We notice among the announcements that one "Melvil Dewey, A.M., will contribute to a department devoted to the tricycle."

Señor Ernesto Quesada has contributed an article on the Bibliothèque de la Ville de Paris to the *Nueva Revista de Buenos Aires*, año II, tom. iv. Entr. 16.

We have reason to believe that the various statements which have appeared as to the amount for which the Prussian Government secured the Hamilton Manuscripts are all inaccurate, and that the amount actually paid was £82,000. The extreme regret experienced in many quarters that these manuscripts should have been allowed to leave England is hardly justified by their value to our own country in particular; and indeed it appears not unlikely that those which relate to English history will yet find their way back.

LIBRARY CATALOGUES AND REPORTS.

Supplement to the rough author-catalogue of the permanent stock of the Circulating Library, London Institution, September, 1882. London: Waterlow and Sons (Limited), 1882. 8vo, pp. 63. Price 6*d*.

"This is a mere rough list, abbreviated under the direction of the late principal Librarian from the card-catalogue compiled by himself. Circumstances, however, having prevented him from revising the proofs, the responsibility for all mistakes, of whatever kind, must lie entirely with his successor, the present Librarian."—*Preface.*

Catalogue of the York Gate Geographical and Colonial Library. London: Printed by R. Clay, Sons and Taylor, 1882. 8vo, pp. lii–134.

Embraces the Geographical and Colonial portions of the library accumulated by Mr. S. W. Silver, which he has endeavoured to make as complete as he could. The catalogue, which has been compiled by our member, Mr. E. A. Petherick, who has made a special study of the history and bibliography of this branch of literature, gives full titles in order of date and classified according to countries, including the contents of miscellaneous collections. The catalogue is preceded by indexes of countries and subjects, and of authors. The work is very neatly printed, and is a valuable contribution to bibliography as well as the catalogue of a very valuable collection.

Birmingham Books, &c., in the Birmingham Free Libraries. Reference Department, 1881. 8vo, pp. 40, and wrapper.

An interesting list of Birmingham books arranged under the following heads: Acts of Parliament relating to Birmingham; Almanacks; Corporation Documents; Directories; Exhibitions; History, Topography, Guides, &c.; Hymn Books; Institutions; Maps, Views, &c.; Newspapers; Poetry; Pamphlets; Manuscripts; Birmingham printed books.

Catalogue of the Perth Mechanics' Library. Instituted 24th November, 1823. Perth: Printed by Wood and Son, 1882. 8vo, pp. vii–123, cloth back.

A very carefully prepared, and neatly printed alphabetical index-catalogue, which appears to have been compiled by Mr. Charles Tulloch, Secretary and Treasurer of the Institution. We would only suggest that, as the type used, though clear, is very small, there would have been great economy of space, if the catalogue had been printed in double column.

Borough of Plymouth Free Public Library. Index Catalogue of the Lending Department. Compiled by W. H. K. Wright, Public Librarian, Plymouth. Rt. White Stevens, 1882. 4to, pp. iii–248, Advts. pp. lx., half-cloth.

This is but a temporary issue, and the index to Periodicals with other preliminary matter will be issued later. The index plan has been very thoroughly carried out. A conspicuous feature of the catalogue is the number of advertisements issued with it, some of which have been allowed to take possession of the outside covers, while others increase the bulk of the catalogue. Mr. Wright informs us, however, that the advertisers contribute more than £100 towards the cost of production. We should be more inclined to object to the unwieldiness of the quarto size, which has indeed the advantage of admitting double columns and bold type.

Catalogue of Books added to the Library of the University of St. Andrews, 1881–82. Printed by William Blackwood and Sons, Edinburgh. 1882. 8vo, pp. 67.

Full titles, with a few subject entries. Press marks are given in most cases.

Borough of Swansea. Eighth Annual Report of the Public Library and Gallery of Art Committee, 1881–82. Swansea: November, 1882. 8vo, pp. 20, with Balance-sheet and cover.

The issues in the Reference Department were 71,647 as compared with 45,106 in the previous year. The additions by gift to this department have been large and important. The returns from the Central Lending Department, and at Morriston, show a slight decrease, being 37,625 instead of 41,241. The number of volumes is now: in the Reference Department, 16,559; and in the Lending Department, 6,651. The Committee again urge the pressing necessity for the proposed new buildings.

Wednesbury Free Library. Fourth Annual Report of the Free Library Committee, 1881. Wednesbury, 1882. 8vo, pp. 24.

There has been a slight decrease in the issues from the Lending Department, but the number of borrowers has increased from 51,942 to 53,913. A similar result appears from the issues of the Reference Library, where the borrowers have increased from 5,313 to 6,338. Of the readers in the Reference Library, 4,813 out of the total of 6,338 were under twenty-one years of age. The additions to the Lending Department are 344 vols., and to the Reference Department 15. The income from the rates for the year was £235 17*s.* 6*d.*, which, after deducting the annual instalment of loan and interest, leaves too little available for the efficient working of the institution. The Report of the Science and Art Classes is appended.

NOTICES OF BIBLIOGRAPHIES, ETC.

Address at the opening of the Fifth Annual Meeting of the Library Association of the United Kingdom, Cambridge, Sept. 5, 1882, with an appendix; by Henry Bradshaw, President. (Memoranda No. 7, October, 1882.) Cambridge: Macmillan and Bowes, 1882. 8vo, pp. 39, price 1*s.*

The appendix consists of: 1, some account of the organisation of the Cambridge University Library [very interesting and instructive, as it possesses some points of technical excellence not to be found in any other library of this country]; 2, notes on local libraries considered as museums of local authorship and printing; 3, a word on size-notation as distinguished from form-notation [see M. N., I., 8].

A bibliography of the Microscope and Micrographic Studies, being a catalogue of books and papers in the library of Julien Deby. Part III. the Diatomaceae, compiled with the co-operation of Frederic Kitton. London: printed for J. Deby by David Bogue, 1882. La. 8vo, pp. vi–67.

This not only includes books in the possession of the owner but also desiderata in order to make it a complete bibliography of the subject. Part III. is issued in advance of parts I. and II., which will include similar lists of the works relating to the microscope proper, the Protozoa, the Desmediae and some other branches of natural science. These are nearly completed and will follow shortly.

De l'organisation et de l'administration des bibliothèques publiques et privées, manuel théorique et pratique du Bibliothécaire; par Jules Cousin. Ouvrage suivi d'un appendice contenant les arrêtés, règlements, circulaires et instructions ministériels relatifs aux bibliothèques universitaires, aux bibliothèques circulantes et aux bibliothèques populaires. Paris: G. Pedone-Lauriel, 1882. 8vo, xi–374, price 8 francs.

As this book will form the subject of a paper at the December Monthly Meeting, it is perhaps enough to say that M. Cousin has chiefly in view the require-

ments of French government libraries, and that he is evidently unaware of the progress of librarianship outside his own country. The appendix of documents is very useful.

Un manuscrit de la bibliothèque du Roi de France Charles V., retrouvé à Besançon; par Auguste Castan. Nogent-le-Rotrou: imp. Daupelay-Gouverneur, 1882. 8vo, pp. 9.

An extract from the *Bibliothèque de l'Ecole des Chartes*, t. 43, 1882.

La Bibliomanie en 1881. Bibliographie rétrospective des adjudications les plus remarquables faites cette année et de la valeur primitive de ces ouvrages; par Philomneste Junior [Gustave Brunet]. Bruxelles, 1882. Sm. 8vo, pp. 69.

Contains an account of the most noteworthy prices realised by rare books during the year. The third year of publication.

La bibliographie de l'escrime, ancienne et moderne; par Vigeant, maître d'armes à Paris. Paris: impr. par Motteroz, 1882. Sm. 8vo, pp. 172, price 10 francs.

The list is not perhaps so complete as it might have been made, and the books are not very carefully described; there are not so many books as were in Mr. W. F. Foster's list of 200 in *Notes and Queries*, in 1875. A list of the chief maîtres d'armes from the time of Charles IX. is prefixed. The typography is excellent.

Bibliographie des traditions et de la littérature populaire de la Bretagne; par H. Gaidoz et Paul Sébillot. Nogent-le-Rotrou: imp. Daupelay-Gouverneur, 1882. 8vo, pp. 277 to 338.

An extract from the *Revue Celtique*, t. v. Edition limited to 150 copies, printed for private distribution only.

Notice bibliographique sur Richard Simon; par Aug. Bernus. Basel: Georg, 1882. 8vo, pp. 48.

An extract from the "Essai de bibliographie oratorienne; par P. M. M. P. Ingold," now in course of publication.

Abriss der Quellenkunde der Griechischen und Römischen Geschichte. Erste abteilung. Griechische Geschichte bis auf Polybios. Von Arnold Schaefer. III. auflage. Leipzig: Teubner, 1882. 8vo, pp. 111.

We are glad to welcome the third edition of this useful book, which first appeared in 1867 and next in 1873. The authors are arranged chronologically a bibliography being added under each name, with extracts supplying the sources for its literary history.

Wiens Buchdruckergeschichte, 1482-1882, herausgegeben von den Buchdruckern Wiens, verfasst von Dr. Anton Mayer. I. Halbband. Wien: Frick, 1882. La. 4to, pp. 232. With woodcut facsimiles, chromo-xylogr. title page, and 12 plates.

A work of considerable bibliographical value. The second part will appear at the close of the year.

Theologischer Jahresbericht. Unter Mitwirkung von Bassermann, Benrath, Böhringer, Dreyer, Gass, Holtzmann, Lipsius, Lüdemann, Seyerlen, Siegfried, Werner, herausgegeben von B. Pünjer. I. Band enthaltend die Literatur des Jahres 1881. Leipzig: Barth, 1882. La. 8vo, pp. 3–394. Price 8*s*.

An attempt is made to give an account of the theological literature of all

schools of religious thought. Each department is under the direction of a specialist.

Verzeichniss der vorzüglichsten Werke aus dem Gebiete der Medecin und der verwandten Wissenschaften herausgegeben von Georg Szelinski. Wien: Braumüller u. Sohn, 1882. 8vo, pp. 144.

A useful manual of medical literature. The titles (about 3,000 in number) are arranged under authors' names, with a subject-index.

Verzeichniss gedruckter Familiengeschichten Deutschlands und der angrenzenden Länder und Landestheile. Zusammengestellt von Hans von Prittwitz und Gaffron. Berlin: Sittenfeld, 1882 8vo, pp. 161.

A handy index to German family history.

Neue Beiträge zur Bibliographie des Münsterischen Humanisten Murmellius und zur Münsterischen Druckergeschichte; von Dr. Klemens Baeumker. [Zeitschrift fur vaterländische Geschichte und Alterthumskunde; herausgegeben von dem Verein für Geschichte und Alterthumskunde Westfalens. Bd. XL.] Münster: Regensberg, 1882. 8vo.

The bibliography of the works written and edited by Murmellius was in a great state of confusion before the appearance of Dr. Baeumker's labours.

Bericht über die wissenschaftl. Litteratur aus dem Jahr 1880, die Geschichte von Freiberg und Umgegend betr.: von Eduard Heidenreich. Freiberg i. S.: Gerlach's Buchdr., 1882. 8vo, pp. 117–30.

A list of 46 articles, with critical notes. There is a supplement for 1879 Eighteen parts of this publication have been issued.

The Cantor Lectures of Mr. J. Comyns Carr, on "Book-Illustration, Old and New," have been appearing in the *Journal of the Society of Arts* since October 13.

"The bibliographical list of English translations and annotated editions of Goethe's Faust," by W. Heinemann, has been reprinted by the author from the *Bibliographer*, in pamphlet form, for private distribution.

A complete list of his writings is included in the "Memoir of Augustus De Morgan, by his Wife, Sophia Elizabeth De Morgan, with selections from his letters" (London: Longmans, 1882. 8vo, pp. x–422).

A useful list, with brief notes, of books on New Zealand, together with an account of the New Zealand press, is included in "Brighter Britain; or, Settler and Maori in northern New Zealand," by William Delisle Hay" (London: R. Bentley and Son, 1822, two vols., 8vo.) It may be observed that a fairly good bibliography of the subject down to 1859 is given in "The story of New Zealand, past and present, savage and civilized," by Arthur S. Thomson, M.D. (London, 1859, two vols., 8vo).

Some interesting information respecting Japanese illuminated

MSS., as well as printed books, may be found in "Japanese Marks and Seals," by James Lord Bowes (London: Sotheran, 1822).

The *Bibliographer* for November gravely quotes from another source the announcement that "Mr. Schmidt, of Strasburg, is engaged upon a work dealing with the mediæval libraries of his native town, and with the history of its first printing presses." The readers of MONTHLY NOTES of course recollect that the work of "Mr. Schmidt" was reviewed in our August number (see p. 141).

The covers of some recently published books, such as "The Dead Hand in the Free Churches" (London: W. Smith, 1882, small 8vo), and "The history of wood engraving in America," by W. J. Linton (London: G. Bell and Son, 1882, 4to), exhibit a novelty in binding worth notice. The back is ordinary cloth, only just coming over to form a hinge, as in "Museum half-binding." The sides are the usual boards, covered with a thin veneer of *wood*, folded over the edges and worked like cloth or paper. The veining of the wood has a very effective appearance, but whether any other advantage is derivable from this system time and experience can only tell.

The first part of a bibliography of the living authors of Iceland is contained in No. 3 of the *Library* of Cornell University. About 205 names will be represented.

The presence of Mr. Herbert Spencer in America made his writings and teachings an opportune subject for Mr. Foster's September *Monthly Reference Lists.*

The *Literary World* (New York), October 21, publishes a list of works on natural history and science, suitable for a public library.

In the October number of the *Bulletin* of the Hartford Library Association Miss Hewins gives a list of works on English and American history, suitable for children.

A list of books and papers on the subject is contained in "Corea, the Hermit Nation," by W. Elliot Griffis" (New York: C. Scribner's Sons, 1882, 8vo, pp. 27–462, price $3.50).

A very complimentary notice of Mr. Griswold's index to the *Deutsche Rundschau* (see p. 160), appears in the October number of that periodical. "The Germans are not generally an index-making people," says the reviewer.

A biographical sketch of the late Lewis H. Morgan, contributed by Mr. F. W. Putnam to the "Proceedings of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences" (Vol. XVII., May, 1882), contains a list of the deceased author's writings.

It had been proposed by the conductors of the *Publishers' Weekly* to reprint Mr. Bowen's "Descriptive catalogue of historical novels," but instead of doing so, they have decided to entrust to an American librarian the compilation, upon a new plan, of a guide to historical fiction, with historical and other references for parallel reading.

Mr. Melvil Dui is subdividing all the larger of the 1,000 classes of his Amherst "Classification," and adding a fourth, in some cases a fifth, figure, so that users of the system who wish the closest classing may use it. Those not caring for the minute divisions may use anywhere from 10 to 4 000 or 5,000 of the full scheme without the slightest confusion. He specially invites criticisms or suggestions while at work on the new edition of his book. For book-numbers the Cutter system of initials of authors' names, followed by numbers representing the rest of the name, has been adopted.

A "Notice bio-bibliographique" has been added by M. Fernand Drujon to his edition of the "Poésies diverses du Cardinal de Bernis" (Paris: Quantin, 1882, small 8vo, pp. xxxii–253, price 10 francs).

A classified list, with critical notes, of 360 articles relating to German students and student-life is appended to "Beiträge zur Geschichte und Literatur des Deutschen Studententhumes; von A. Pernwerth von Bärnstein" (Würzburg: Stuber, 1882, 8vo).

A bibliography of the literature and views of Heidelberg Castle is contained in "Quellen zur Geschichte des Heidelberger Schlosses; herausgegeben von Dr. Marc Rossaberg" (Heidelberg: Winter, 1882, large 4to).

A list of works suppressed in Germany since 1878, on account of their social-democratic tendencies, is appended to "Das Reichsgesetz gegen die gemeinfährlichen Bestrebungen der Socialdemokratie vom 21 Okt., 1878; von L. Brandt" (Berlin: Heymann, 1882, small 8vo, pp. 144, price 4*s.*).

A bibliographical essay has been issued by Vincenzo Santi, under the title of "Carlo Darwin; commemorazione, per Enrico Dal Pozzo di Mombello" (Perugia: tip. Santucci, 1882, 8vo, pp. 16).

A list of the writings of the recently deceased bibliographer, Camillo Minieri Riccio, is given in the last number of the *Archivio Storico Italiano* (Tomo X. dispensa 5ª of 1882).

A bibliography of the academies and societies of Siena is appended to Sig. C. Mazzi's work on "La congrega dei Rozzi di Siena nel secolo XVI." (Firenze: succ. Le Monnier, 1882, 2 vols., sm. 8vo, pp. vii–459; iv–431, price 8*s.*)

We have received the prospectus of a new edition of the "International Scientists' Directory," which, it is announced, will be issued early in 1883 from 32, Hawley Street, Boston, U.S.A., by S. E. Cassino, to subscribers only, the subscription price being $2.00 in paper covers. The prospectus is printed in English, French, and German, and we notice that among the sciences included is Bibliography.

London: TRÜBNER & CO., Ludgate Hill.
Single Numbers, Threepence each. Annual Subscription, post free, 3s. 6d.

VOL. 3. NO. 12.] [*December* 15, 1882.

BIBLIOTHECA · BODLEIANA

MONTHLY NOTES

OF THE

Library Association

of the United Kingdom.

Contents:—Official Notices—December Monthly Meeting: Paper by Mr. H. R. Tedder, "A French Librarian on Librarianship"—Library Notes—Catalogues and Reports—Notices of Bibliographies, etc.

The next Monthly Meeting of the Association will be held at the London Institution on Friday, January 5th, 1883, at 8 p.m., when a paper will be read by Mr. Ernest C. Thomas entitled, "The Distribution of Public Documents to Libraries in the United States."

A special Council Meeting will be held on Friday, December 15th, to consider the arrangements for the proposed examination of Library Assistants. Those of our members who may have suggestions to offer upon this subject should forward them to the Secretary in order that they may be considered by the January Council.

The Treasurer and Secretary are now engaged in revising the List of Members for 1883, and those members whose subscriptions are not yet paid for the year 1881–2 (ending on October 4th), are reminded that they should be sent to the Treasurer.

DECEMBER MONTHLY MEETING.

The third Monthly Meeting of the Sixth Year of the Association was held at the London Institution, on Friday, December 1st, at 8 p.m., Mr. CORNELIUS WALFORD, V.P., in the chair.

The minutes of the last meeting having been read and confirmed, it was announced that the following gentlemen had joined the Association: Mr. Alderman Webster, 33, Bridge Street, Warrington, Mr. Robert Davies, Birchdale, Warrington (both being members of the Committee of the Warrington Museum); and Mr. Arthur James Jordan, Librarian, Mechanics' Institute, Jarrow-on-Tyne (reported by Mr. W. J. Haggerston).

The Chairman then called upon Mr. H. R. TEDDER to read his Paper, entitled

A FRENCH LIBRARIAN ON LIBRARIANSHIP.

THE title of the recently published work, of which I propose to give you a brief account is: *De l'organisation et de l'administration des bibliothèques publiques et privées; manuel théorique et pratique, suivi d'un appendice.* (Paris: Pedone-Lauriel, 1882, 8vo, pp. xi—374, price 8 frs.)—The author is M. Jules Cousin, librarian of the Bibliothèque Universitaire of Douai.

The special interest of M. Cousin's work to us lies in the fact of its semi-official nature. All the public libraries are more or less under State control, and are regulated in that admirably systematic way which makes France the envy of all lovers of centralisation. Whether the French library system is altogether the better for this is a matter for doubt, since we see from the present book that everything is conducted on cut-and-dried principles which leave nothing for the working of enterprising innovation. Although it cannot be said to supply any new views on library science, it offers a systematic and well written view of what is considered necessary in France for the due management of a public library.

In order to give a general idea of the nature of the book it may be convenient first rapidly to glance at its contents and afterwards to dwell in the same order at greater length upon any matters which appear to deserve attention. The manual is divided into two parts, the one treating of library organisation, and the other of library management. The preliminary questions of site, building and furniture occupy the first two chapters; the second deals with the acquisition of books, their arrangement and cataloguing, their sizes, degrees of rarity, etc.; and the third is devoted to the staff, librarian, sub-librarians, assistants and committee of supervision. Turning to the second part, we find lengthy instructions as to the requisite care to be bestowed upon the building, the furniture and especially the books themselves, but most attention is paid to matters connected with book-keeping, statistics, and official regulations.

The author commences with some preliminary observations, remarking that the librarian should be a *bibliophile* but not a *bibliomane*, and that he should know books both externally and internally. This knowledge is bibliography, which may be divided into material and literary bibliography (p. iv). On beginning his remarks upon the situation and construction of the library, M. Cousin divides libraries into the three classes of public, semi-public and private. The right of entry to the first belongs to every one; in the second it is restricted to a distinct class or body of persons, such as corporations or societies; while in the third one individual holds exclusive rights. He lays down two conditions in forming a library to which we shall all agree—first, that it should help study as much as possible; and secondly, that it should be placed away from the danger of deterioration and destruction (p. 3). After some

oft-quoted directions from Vitruvius about making the windows face the east, we are informed that an oblong shape is the best form of library, as allowing the greatest extent of regular space for shelving (p. 6). A few diagrams on this principle are next explained, and the chapter ends with a word of caution against making the structure too large; while, on the other hand, the possible future of the library should be held in view and a building erected which should be capable of extension (p. 10). A suitable reading-room, with separate book-stores, is more desirable than an imposing apartment to hold both books and readers (p. 11). A private collector may indulge in book-cases of mahogany, cedar, cyprus and other costly materials, but in a public or semi-public library the books alone are most to be considered. Dry and sound wood is the chief necessary; oak, if possible, otherwise deal may be used. Two rows of large and medium sized books should be allowed for at the bottom, then a ledge, and space above it for octavos and smaller books. In a public library, fixed are to be preferred to movable shelves; the tables for readers should be long rather than broad; and ladders with hooks at the top to catch in a rail along the book-cases, as used in most Parisian libraries, are recommended. A hot-air apparatus, with the furnace in the basement, is the best method of warming, and gas is the best means of artificial light (pp. 15–7).

In forming a library, all branches of knowledge should be represented in proper proportions, but as each town and district may possess its special class of readers, their particular requirements should be always regarded. When the labour is undertaken by a committee, each member may, with advantage, take charge of a particular department (p. 21); the list of desirable books once drawn up can then be circulated among booksellers with a view of obtaining offers (p. 27). Having acquired the book, the next process is to stamp it and enter it in the Inventory or Accessions-Catalogue, arranged to show 1, accessions-number; 2, title; 3, number of volumes; 4, binding; 5, observations; 6, date of receipt; 7, spaces for ticking off at the annual inspection. This catalogue, like all the others mentioned, must be compiled on a uniform plan. The Government instructions also direct that the books should be divided into three classes: 1, large size, all above 35 centimeters high; 2, medium size, between 25 and 35 centimeters high; 3, small size, all below 25 centimeters. There are three accessions-catalogues, one for each size, the numbers running, for a library of between 15,000 and 20,000 volumes, say from 1 to 4,000 for the folios or large size, from 4,001 to 10,000 for the quartos or medium size, leaving the remainder for the octavos and smaller books (pp. 30-4). The alphabetical catalogue should be first compiled upon separate cards or slips; the author's name or other heading being placed at the top left-hand corner, the accessions-number at the side, with the short title, place, date and number of volumes underneath. Some extremely elementary notions as to headings are all that is said on the subject of cataloguing rules (pp. 40-5). The cards are arranged in wired boxes for the use of the librarian, as M. Cousin does not consider the public

apt to use a card-catalogue (p. 49), and transcribed into volumes in which separate columns are provided for 1, heading; 2, short title; 3, page of classified catalogue; 4, edition; 5, volumes; 6, size; 7, place; 8, date; 9, accessions-number (p. 50). The classified catalogue is the next undertaking, and on this subject the words of Naudé (1643) are quoted with approval: "Je croy que le meilleur est toujours celui qui est le plus facile, le moins intrigué, le plus naturel, usité, et qui suit les facultez, Théologie, Médecine, etc." (p. 54), this system being, of course, the basis of that of Garnier, subsequently elaborated by P. Marchand, G. Martin and Brunet. Full details are supplied of some of the best known French classifications, including one proposed by the Ministère de l'Instruction Publique for popular libraries (p. 64) and one devised by the author (p. 75). In compiling the systematic or classified catalogue the first duty is to carefully examine the book and write at the top of a card the special class to which it belongs; on the right-hand corner comes the date, and underneath the full title copied exactly from the title page, with edition, place, publisher, date again, volumes and accessions-number, and, in some instances, bibliographical notes. The cards are afterwards brought together in order of classes and copied upon sheets, to be afterwards bound up in volumes. The columns under which this catalogue are arranged consist of 1, full title; 2, edition; 3, place, publisher, etc.; 4, date; 5, number of volumes; 6, size; 7, observations; 8, accessions-number (p. 85). The question of sizes of books is gone into at some length, and a variety of information given as to signature-notation and sizes of papers in France. Omitting folios the other sizes are roughly estimated as follows (p. 95):—

	Centimeters.
In-quarto (4°)	28 × 22½
In-octavo (8°)	22½ × 14
In-douze (12°)	18⅜ × 11½
In-dix-huit jésus (18°)	15 × 9½

We next find some familiar remarks on *incunabula* and the rarity of books (pp. 97-110).

A public library is very much like a large house of business, that is to say, under ordinary conditions, the use that will be made of it will depend upon the zealousness of the librarian and his staff, just as the prosperity of a house of business depends upon the activity of the manager and his employés (p. 117). The remarks of the Abbé Cotton des Houssayes in his Sorbonne address (1780) on the qualifications of a good librarian are referred to, but too much devotion to special studies is condemned (p. 119). The duties of the supervising committee consist of seeing that the library suffers no injury, whether as to material or contents, and that it is managed in the proper spirit. These objects are ensured by periodical inspections which comprehend an annual checking of the inventories or accessions-catalogue.

Among the precautions to be used in taking care of books are means to be employed against those enemies of books, dust, damp, fire, worms, rats, and readers (pp. 135–49, 164–70). The

notes on binding are chiefly historical, but a list of prices is interesting (p. 163). The practical recipes for separating and washing the pages of a book, and for taking out marks, whether of dust, mud, ink, damp, grease, oil or printers' ink, are useful (pp. 165-8). Although the art of mending worm-holes and torn paper is not generally considered within a librarian's qualifications, it is well to know where to look for such information (p. 170). The operations of supplying the wants of readers and of lending books for home reading do not demand special remark; the register and application-cards are of an ordinary character, except that perhaps a little more writing is required than is usual with us (pp. 170–80). The regulation system of book-keeping is very elaborate. It is divided into financial and administrative, the former being further divided into personal and material, the one having to do with salaries and allowances, the other being arranged under the heads of 1, purchase of books; 2, subscriptions to journals and reviews; 3, binding; 4, warming; 5, lighting; 6, furniture; 7, stationery and printing; 8, petty cash. The purchase of new books and subscriptions to periodicals must be regularly registered, as well as the binding-orders (pp. 182–6). As regards the latter, some directions from the "Instruction Générale" of May, 1878, deserve transcription: "Do not attempt to bind before twelve months after the publication of a book. Fine bindings not being suitable for public libraries, except under certain conditions, simple half-binding, and boarding with calf or cloth backs will generally suffice. Ordinary books are to have all their edges cut; in others, the tops alone are to be cut and sprinkled as a preservative against dust. See that the boards stand out from the edges. For half-bindings, adopt white calf (plain, varnished or antique) which colours by itself and does not change. Choose green vellum as less likely to get dirty" (p. 191). Under the other heads there is nothing of special importance. For administrative book-keeping a series of registers is provided: 1, the inventory or accessions-catalogue, already spoken of; 2, the register of periodicals; 3, one for books lent; 4, a binder's book; 5, one for the annual inspection. These books, with a variety of tables upon a uniform plan, readily supply any statistical information required (pp. 197–210). All French public libraries possess a regular system of reports to the higher powers. In the university libraries, which are specially considered in this book, there are three kinds of reports to be made, the first, a monthly report to the Rector on the general state of the library, including number of readers, progress of catalogues, books issued and lent, and accessions. The second is the quarterly report on the progress of the catalogues addressed to the Minister of Public Instruction. The third is on the result of the annual inspection addressed to the same person on the opening of the school year (pp. 211–4). The rules and regulations should be sufficiently liberal to prevent the library becoming a buried treasure, and at the same time of a nature to keep it free from danger (p. 216). With reference to choosing a librarian it is important that he

should possess special aptitudes in addition to the qualifications already spoken of, and it would be well to exact from candidates a diploma or special certificate, or else that they should undergo a competitive examination (p. 218). The salaries should be adequate to the responsibility of the functions: while no sinecures can be allowed, on the other hand, the minor officials should not be so underpaid as to force them to undertake work elsewhere. Finally, all the members of the staff ought to show themselves full of urbanity and attention to the wants of the public. Once received in a cold and repelling manner, a reader will seldom return (p. 223). The official documents in the appendix relate to university, circulating, and popular libraries; some of the instructions are very elaborate, and include rules for every department of library management, from the treatment of manuscripts down to the best form of inkstand to be used.

I have not attempted to criticise any of the author's observations as they are generally applicable to a library system quite different to our own, and are besides especially addressed to university libraries. Some of the recommendations and suggestions are rather elementary, and the scraps of gossip dispersed here and there appear out of character in a specialist's manual; but unfortunately nearly all writers on library-management copy each other with such unwearied complacency that any novel suggestion is of very unfrequent occurrence. The want of knowledge of what has been done recently in England and America is remarkable in a book which is otherwise full of information of an old-fashioned kind. M. Cousin does not even seem to have heard of the two Library Associations, and the only foreign treatise which he quotes is Petzholdt's "Katechismus." The book deserves to be read, however, by those librarians who think it their professional duty to become acquainted with general library history, and with the conditions of library-management outside their own immediate requirements. M. Cousin represents very successfully the French official view of scientific librarianship.

After a brief discussion, a vote of thanks was passed to Mr. Tedder for his paper, and the meeting then adjourned.

LIBRARY NOTES.

BELFAST.—The ratepayers of Belfast may be congratulated on having removed from Ireland the reproach that only one of its towns—Dundalk, with a population of a little over 12,000—has adopted the Libraries Acts during the thirty years that they have been in operation. Several mayors have, it appears, been anxious to take the opinion of the ratepayers but could never get the question put to the vote. It has been reserved for Sir Edward Cowan, the present mayor, to carry the matter to a successful issue. On the 8th of November the result of the poll was announced, when it appeared that 10,207 voting papers were distributed and 8,620 collected or received. Of those received, 1,894 were "unfilled," and 63 were "imperfect or conditional." The number of votes for the adoption

of the Acts was 5,238, and of those against 1,425. The adoption of the Acts was thus carried by a clear majority of the ratepayers. The *Northern Whig* is quite justified, therefore, in observing: "The ratepayers have done their duty admirably: they have done it better than many of the friends of the Free Library expected."

CANTERBURY.—A motion in favour of opening the Municipal Museum and Library on Sunday afternoons was brought before a special meeting of the Town Council on the 6th of December by Mr. Alderman Hart. After a long discussion the motion was negatived by 12 votes to 4.

EDINBURGH.—An Edinburgh Correspondent writes us as follows:—"The commencement of a large new wing to the Advocates' Library in the open space betwixt the Sheriff Court Buildings, George IV. Bridge, and the present over-stored tenement, may interest even English readers. This formed part of a project mooted some years ago, which included a reading-room after the fashion of the British Museum for the general public. But no hint has as yet been given of the realisation of this part of the programme.

"The Philosophical Institution directors have been busy with improvements both in their General and Ladies' Reading Rooms. An attempt has been made to carry off the noxious gas fumes, so fatal to sheepskin bindings, by a system of ventilation directly connected with the new sun-light gas-burners placed in the Library. Time will tell whether this method, or a new mode of lighting, such as paraffin oil, is the best remedy for an evil incident to all libraries opening in the evenings. In the liquidation of the Select Subscription Library the ravages caused by this oxidation of the sulphur compounds in the gas into sulphuric acid have been very thoroughly disclosed, the value of the stock being thus very palpably depreciated, though it is yet too early to condescend on figures regarding this. At the same time, a certain number of the books bound in buckram with pasteboard covers have stood unharmed for forty years, side by side with their now disabled half-calf and sheepskin neighbours. By the way, the readiness with which the members of this now defunct Library have purchased its volumes opens up a new vista of library economy. Of course the same practice prevails in the larger booksellers' circulating libraries. But it might also be mooted in a public library, which is supposed to contain a more solid class of books, as to how many might thus be periodically disposed of, if the real property of the Institution? And this being granted, might not such a Library be accommodated in smaller buildings. Indeed this moot matter of library economics would require an article, not a paragraph, for its discussion. A library is no doubt a store for the best literary treasures of the present and past ages; but only one or two institutions can be so, while the majority are sort of half-way houses betwixt the bookseller and the reader. We only plead that the latter function, so invaluable to all students, be made more prominent. And, if necessary, facts can be adduced in favour of this."

GLASGOW.—A meeting of leading citizens was held in Glasgow on November 22nd, to consider a scheme, brought forward by Lord Provost Ure (a member of the L. A. U. K.), to secure a site whereon could be erected buildings suitable for the accommodation of a Museum, Art Gallery, School of Art, and Public Library. Immediately adjoining the present Corporation Galleries of Art on the west is a large block at present unoccupied. The proposal is to purchase this piece of ground, and on it erect a Museum, School of Art, and Art Galleries; the present site of the Galleries to be occupied by the Mitchell Library. The sketch plan exhibited at the meeting shows a Greek elevation to Sauchiehall Street about 560 feet in length. At the meeting a general feeling was expressed that Glasgow had been far too long without adequate buildings for these important purposes; that the present housing of all the institutions named was extremely unsatisfactory; and that the time had come when a serious effort should be made to relieve the city from this reproach. Reference was made to benefactions for purposes of literature and art in Paisley, and in Liverpool, Manchester, Birmingham, and other cities in England; and a hope was expressed that the ratepayers would be induced to adopt the Free Libraries Act, so that the Corporation would be enabled not only to increase the usefulness of the Mitchell Library as a central Reference Library, but also to establish district Lending Libraries in other parts of the town. The proposed site in Sauchiehall Street was approved as being, though somewhat to the west of the centre of the city, perfectly accessible, and possessing, from its elevated position, good light and air. A committee was appointed to carry out the scheme; and four donations of £1,000 each, and five of £500 each, were intimated.

HULL.—A public meeting of the ratepayers, in pursuance of a requisition signed by nearly 10,000 ratepayers, has been called for the 13th to consider the question of adopting the Free Libraries Acts. The Viceroy of India, the Marquis of Ripon, who is High Steward of the Borough, has promised a contribution of £250 toward the Library. Dr. Rollit, Chairman of the Executive Committee formed to obtain the Library, has issued a second edition of his interesting and forcible address on "The Need of a Public Library for Hull," from which we learn that upwards of £1,409 had already been promised in November. The promoters of the movement are very sanguine of success.

LONDON: HACKNEY.—An attempt is being made to induce the ratepayers to reopen the question of adopting the Libraries Acts. The Rev. R. Daniel-Tyssen, rector of South Hackney, has written a letter to the Vestry, in which he states that his late father in his antiquarian researches, had made a collection of books, prints, &c., a considerable portion of which had reference to Hackney. The family had, after consideration as to the best mode of disposing of the collection so as to render it generally useful, come to the conclusion that the part relating to Hackney would be most valuable if retained in that parish. If it were thought proper to establish a

voluntary Free Library he would be willing to contribute his father's collection as a nucleus, and £130 towards expenses. If, however, it was felt that a Reference Library at the local Town Hall would be preferable, he would contribute £100 towards the cost.

LONDON: NATIONAL LIBERAL CLUB.—It is proposed to establish in connection with the club a political and historical library to be called "the Gladstone Library" as a permanent memorial of Mr. Gladstone's services to his country. In proposing a resolution upon the subject at the meeting held in London on November 16th, Sir William Harcourt suggested that Mr. Herbert Gladstone should be the first "Honorary Librarian" of the Library.

LONDON: SACRED HARMONIC SOCIETY'S LIBRARY. — The anxiety which has been expressed in some quarters lest this valuable library should leave the country is happily allayed by the announcement that through the generous intervention of friends the collection has been secured for the Royal College of Music.

LONDON: SOUTH LONDON FREE LIBRARY.—A course of Free Lectures to men and women is being delivered on Sunday afternoons and evenings at this institution. The chief burden of the lecturing is borne by Mr. Rossiter, but we also notice among the lecturers two of our members, Mr. Conybeare and Mr. Pfoundes. A summary of the report of the institution will be found on another page.

MANCHESTER.—The Sunday lectures at the Ancoats Branch Library continue to draw large audiences of from five to eight hundred people. On November 19th, Mr. W. E. A. Axon lectured on the "Shadows of Old Manchester," to a most appreciative audience.

OXFORD.—On November 28th the following grants of books printed at the Clarendon Press were made by Convocation to the Leeds Public Library, to the value of £50; to the Newport (Mon.) Public Library, £25.

SALFORD.—Mr. W. E. A. Axon, who, as our readers are aware, is an Hon. Member of the Committee of the Salford Royal Museum and Library, has been elected without a contest to a seat upon the Salford School Board. Mr. Axon should thus have an opportunity of trying to work out that problem of the relation between the school and the library for which so much has been done in America.

SHREWSBURY. — The Municipal Council propose to adopt the Libraries Acts, and a Committee has been formed to raise the sum necessary to secure the Grammar School buildings which have been offered to the town, and to fit them for the purpose of a County Museum and Library. It is estimated that £5,000 will be required, and of this sum considerably over £2,000 has been promised.

Mr. Cornelius Walford may unfortunately find two additions to his list of libraries which have fallen a prey to fire in the disasters which have taken place within a few days of each other at Clevedon Court, near Bristol (on the 27th November), and at Stanford

Court, Worcestershire (on the 5th December). In each case only a small portion of the library was saved, and the collections thus lost, were, we understand, very valuable.

At the meeting held at the town house of the Marquis of Salisbury on November 16th, to consider the proper form of a memorial to the late Dr. Pusey, it was decided to purchase Dr. Pusey's library, and to provide suitable buildings to contain it, as well as to form an endowment for two or more clergymen to act as librarians and to promote the interest of theological study in the University. It is proposed to raise £50,000.

A brief sketch of the life and literary labours of Dr. A. C. Burnell, who was the author of the well-known Catalogue of the Tanjore Library, appears in the new numbers of Trübner's *Record*.

The Cotgreave Indicator has been adopted at the Public Library, Twickenham.

An action between the Liverpool Lyceum and the Liverpool Library was decided by Mr. Justice Chitty on December 7th, the question at issue being the right of the latter institution to occupy rooms on the premises of the former. The Judge decided in favour of the Plaintiffs.

The October issue of the *Harvard University Bulletin*, besides the list of accessions, contains the concluding instalments of three of the bibliographies in progress and a further instalment of the "Classified Index to Maps in Petermann's Geographische Mittheilungen."

The Directors of the Mercantile Library of Philadelphia have issued the first number of a quarterly *Bulletin* intended to contain a list of accessions arranged according to the system adopted by the Library for classification upon the shelves. The number contains an explanation and full synopsis of this classification which has been introduced into the Library by the librarian, Mr. John Edmands. It also contains a short account of the history of the Library.

CATALOGUES AND REPORTS.

Hendon. Catalogue of Books in the Hendon Lending Library, Heading Street. 1882. London. Price Twopence. Sm. 8vo, pp. 32.

This we are told is "the first attempt at making useful an old Village Library at Hendon, which has long been in disrepute." The books, which are of a popular character, are grouped under the classes: Religious Works; Biography; Poetry; Travels; History; and Miscellaneous Works. There appear to be about 800 vols.

Borough of St. Helens. Catalogue of Books in the Lending and Reference Departments of the Free Public Library. Part I. St. Helens, 1882. 8vo, pp. ii, 214, paper wrapper.

——————— Catalogue of Books in the Lending Department of the Free Public Library. Part II. St. Helens, 1882. 8vo, pp. ii, 69, paper wrapper.

The First Part of this Catalogue contains the contents of the library with the

exception of "Fiction, Poetry and the Drama," which belong to the Lending Department only and are catalogued in Part II. Only a few of the books in this library are confined to the Reference Department, and these are catalogued separately (pp. 199-213) as well as incorporated in the general body of the Catalogue. The Catalogue is one of authors, titles and subjects in a single alphabet. The press marks are given. It is a good and solid piece of work.

Sheffield Free Public Libraries. Catalogue of the Central Library Lending Department. Sheffield, 1882. Price One Shilling. 4to, pp. 302, half-cloth, paper sides.

This Catalogue consists of two parts—the first being an alphabetical index of authors' names, the second an alphabetical index of subjects and titles. The contents of volumes are in many cases set out. "Juvenile literature" is separately catalogued. The whole appears to be very carefully done and Mr. Hurst deserves the special thanks which we learn from the Report have been given to him by his Committee.

Cambridge Public Free Library. Twenty-seventh Annual Report. 1881-1882. 8vo, pp. 16.

The progress of the Library has been satisfactory, the additions and issues being larger than in any previous year. The volumes added to the stock were 1,453 and the issues 74,559. The Reading Room has been so well attended, that a larger room has become a pressing necessity. The income was £761 17*s.* of which the rate produced £676 6*s.* 6*d.* The account of the Library prepared by Mr. Pink for our Cambridge Meeting is appended to the Report.

Canterbury. Report of the Museum Committee, showing the work done during the past year. [Dated November 1st, 1882.] Fol. p. 1.

The number of books lent out was about 1,200 as compared with 731 in 1881 and 398 in 1880. The daily attendance in the Reading Room is about 100. The Committee observe "The new Catalogue of the Library has at last been completed and published, and your Committee regret that several inaccuracies appear therein."

Clitheroe Free Library. Fourth Annual Report, 1881-2. Presented to the Town Council, 9th November, 1882. 4to, pp. 3.

The issues were 12,850, the additions to the Library were 139, making the total stock 3,159. The expenditure for the year was £71 18*s.* 6*d.* The Committee appeal for further assistance to extend the usefulness of this well-appreciated institution.

Borough of Derby. Eleventh Report of the Committee of the Free Public Library and Museum, Presented to the Town Council, November 9th, 1882. Derby, 1882. 8vo, pp. 19.

The Committee report increasing usefulness and prosperity, though their limited finances make it impossible for them to cope with the demand for new books in the Lending Department. The issues were, in the Lending Department, 174,066; in the Reference Department, 29,563. The average turn-over of each volume in the former department was 17⅔. The issues of Fiction were under 50 per cent. The experiment of a series of Free Lectures on Natural History has proved very successful. The rate produced £1,320 4*s.* The Financial Statement is unusually full and detailed.

Manchester. Thirtieth Annual Report to the Council of the City of Manchester on the Working of the Public Free Libraries. 1881-2. Manchester, 1882. 8vo, pp. 36.

The libraries were visited during the year by more than two million persons. The issues have turned the million and numbered 1,065,853 volumes to 942,807 persons—a much larger number than has ever before been issued. Of these issues, 210,195 were in the Reference Department. The use of the libraries on Sundays has increased. The addition to the stock has been 9,790 vols. There are now in

the Reference Library 70,320 vols., and in the branches 90,449. The number of persons holding borrowers' tickets is 32,135. The Report contains no financial statement. In an appendix is an account of the proceedings at the opening of the Deansgate Branch.

Borough of Middlesbrough. The Annual Report of the Free Library Committee for the 11th year ending 30th September, 1882. 4to, pp. 8.

The amount received from the rate was £806 1*s.* 10*d.*, and the year closes with £45 in hand, after spending the unusual amount of £171 3*s.* 4*d.* in new books. There are now 9,920 books on the shelves. There is no Reference Department. The issues for the year were 58,748 of which over 67 per cent. were in fiction. The Committee have assisted the lecture-courses of Cambridge and Durham Universities and propose to do more in this direction.

Borough of Sheffield. Twenty-sixth Annual Report of the Committee of the Free Public Libraries and Museum. Sheffield, 1882. 8vo, pp. 19.

The Committee regret that it has not adequate means more fully to provide Free Libraries for the Borough. The issues were, from the Central Lending Library, 112,101 vols., from the three branches, 241,949, of which over 60 per cent. were fiction. The issues in the Reference Department were 26,283. The additions to the stock numbered 1,708 vols. The visitors to the Museum were 126,142. There is no balance sheet.

Wolverhampton. Thirteenth Annual Report of the Wolverhampton Free Library Committee. [Dated October 23, 1882.] Fol., pp. 13.

The issues for the year were, in the Lending Department, 39,533—a decrease on the previous year of 17,974, of which however 14,959 were in fiction alone. The issues in the Reference Department increased to 5,876. In the Evening Classes the number of students, as well as the amount of the Government grant exceeded any previous year. The Committee regret the want of means to adequately develop their work. There is no financial information.

In a Report for the 4¼ years during which the South London Free Library and Fine Art Gallery has been carried on (1878–82), the Treasurer, Secretary and Librarian, Mr. Rossiter, announces that the total expenditure has been £1,628 13*s.* 8½*d.*, while £1,423 16*s.* 1*d.* has been received in donations, leaving a deficit of £204 17*s.* 7½*d.* The library consists of 3,000 volumes, and "is the only public collection of books in all South London, which has a population of over a million."

The Airdrie Free Library does not publish a separate Report, but we learn from the Report published in the local newspaper that the issues for the year ending 30th June last were 15,767, while the visitors to the Reading Room numbered 26,663. The Committee provide funds for the purchase of newspapers and magazines, leaving the amount realised from the assessment for the purchase of books.

We learn from the Abstract of the Accounts of the Borough of Macclesfield that the income of the Library for the year ending 31st August last was £366 14*s.* 4*d.*, of which the rate produced £330, and the expenditure £351 11*s.* 3*d.* The works issued were 51,311; the attendance at the Reading Room was 90,364, and the volumes issued there 701. The number of vols. in the Lending Library is 13,795.

NOTICES OF BIBLIOGRAPHIES, ETC.

The reader's guide to English history; by Prof. William Francis Allen. Boston: Ginn, Heath and Co., 1880. Obl. 8vo, pp. 33. Price 50 cents.

Arranged in four parallel columns, of which *a* consists of genealogical tables of English rulers, *b* includes the best historical literature, *c* novels, poems and dramas relating to each period, and *d* the same class of works illustrating contemporary history. A useful addition to the librarian's handybooks.

L'art de former une bibliothèque; par Jules Richard. Paris: Ed. Rouveyre et G. Blond, 1882. 8vo, pp. 160. Price 4 frs.

Not very much on the difficult art of forming a good library can be discovered in this little volume, which contains, however, some interesting, if not altogether novel remarks about *bibliophilie*, book-plates, dear books, small books, large books, and so on.

Le missel de Thomas James, évêque de Dol: lettre à M. le Comte Auguste de Bastard, par Léopold Delisle. Nogent-le-Rotrou: imp. Daupeley-Gouverneur, 1882. 8vo, pp. 5.

An extract from the *Bibliothèque de l'Ecole des Chartes*, t. 43, 1882. The missal in question is preserved at Lyons. It was illuminated in 1483 by the Florentine artist Attavante.

Les livres de Nicolas Vassart à la Bibliothèque Publique de Nancy; par J. Favier. Nancy: imp. Crépin-Leblond, 1882. 8vo, pp. 7, with woodcut of arms.

An extract from the *Journal de la Société d'Archéologie Lorraine*, June, 1882.

Les heures gothiques et la littérature pieuse aux XV^e^ et XVI^e^ siècles; par Felix Soleil. Rouen: E. Augé, 1882. 8vo, pp. 309; only 300 copies printed. Price 40 frs.

A careful study of the *Livres d'Heures*, so interesting bibliographically and liturgically. Besides other illustrations it contains a series of twenty-four facsimile reproductions from some of the most remarkable editions of Simon Vostre, Thielman Kerver, Jehan de Brie, etc. A book like this has long been wanted.

Bibliographie artistique, historique et littéraire de Paris avant 1789; par l'abbé Valentin Dufour. Paris: A. Laporte, 1882. 8vo, pp. viii–524 and 14, four plates. Price, ordinary copies, 25 frs.; papier vergé, proofs, 50 frs.

Contains a facsimile from the first book printed at Paris in 1470 and a reproduction of an illustration of the distribution of the *Nouvelles ecclésiastiques* in the 18th century. The author is favourably known to antiquaries as the author of the *Anciennes descriptions de Paris*. He was formerly sub-librarian at the Bibliothèque de l'Hotel de Ville.

Hildebrandt's Bibliographie der Staats-und Rechts-wissenschaften. Die Erscheinungen des deutschen buchhandels auf dem Gebiete der Staats- und Rechts-wissenschaften, Politik, Statistik and National-Oekonomie, des Finanz und Bankwesens sowie des Kirchenrechtes und der Kirchenpolitik. I. Band, von der Gründung des deutschen Kaiserreiches bis September 1876. II. Band, vom September 1876 bis Ende 1881. Berlin: C. Heymann's Verlag, 1882. 2 vols., 8vo, pp. 274 and 315. Price 7*s.* 6*d.*

The titles of the works are given in full, with number of pages, publishers' names, prices, etc., and arranged alphabetically under authors. The index is in

alphabet of subjects and is rather poor. On looking up *Kulturkampf*, for instance, one is referred to 35 bare names of writers, without any further indication. The book must however be useful to specialists; the price is very moderate.

Ratgeber für Musiker und Freunde der Tonkunst bei der Wahl geeigneter Musikalien; von Bernhard Brähmig, Zweite vermehrte Auflage, ungearbeitet von H. Kürbitz. Leipzig: Merseburger, 1882. 8vo, pp. x—143. Price 1m.

Contains select lists of books in all departments of musical literature.

Repertorium der Journal-Literatur der Eisenbahn-Tecknik; von Franz Woas, Reg. Baumeister. Berlin: Springer, 1882. 8vo, pp. xvi—260. Price 5m.

The first part of a publication which the publisher hopes to continue annually. The present number contains the railway literature of 1880 and 1881.

Relazione del trasporto della Biblioteca Palatina da Heidelberg a Roma, scritta da Leone Allacci, ed ora per la prima volta pubblicata da Giovanni Beltrani, con notizie storiche e bibliografiche. Firenze: tip. Bencini, 1882. 8vo.

An extract from the *Revista Europea*, April 1st, 1882. It was the celebrated Greek scholar, Leo Allatius, who superintended the conveying of the Palatine Library from Heidelberg to Rome in 1622, when it was presented by Maximilian as a trophy of war to Gregory XV. Allatius was very proud of the success of his undertaking, and claimed that the transfer had been made without losing a single leaf. His account, which has never been printed before, is very interesting.

"A Bibliography of Folk-Lore publications in English," has been commenced by Mr. G. L. Gomme in the *Folk-Lore Record*, vol 5.

Mr. W. H. K. Wright is collecting materials for a bibliography of Sir Francis Drake, the famous Devonshire hero, and will be happy to receive information on the subject.

The University of Durham has been presented by its Visitor, the Bishop, with a sum of money to found a Scholarship to be named after Richard de Bury, who was Bishop of the Diocese, 1333-1345, and who is better known to bibliographers as the author of the *Philobiblion*.

The first number of the new volume of the *Bibliographer* contains an article on the now famous catalogue of the Canterbury Municipal Library; and also an article consisting of an American translation of the address of the Abbé Cotton des Houssayes, on his appointment to the librarianship of the Sorbonne, reprinted from the New York *Philobiblion*. Three out of the four remaining articles are substantially reprinted from other journals.

The "Seventh Annual Report of the President of the Johns Hopkins University" (Baltimore: J. Murphy and Co., 1882, 8vo, pp. 122) contains a *Bibliographia Hopkingensis*, 1876-82, or list of books and articles published by members of the Johns Hopkins University, written during the connexion of the author with the university, or based for work carried on while there.

Reference lists directing attention to the best works relating to the subjects discussed have been prefixed to each chapter of "Intro-

duction to the study of English literature and literary criticism," by Prof. James Baldwin, of which the first volume (poetry) has just been issued by John E. Potter and Co., of Philadelphia.

A third volume (Cholecyanin-Dzondi) of the great Index catalogue of the Surgeon-General's office has appeared. It includes 9,043 author-titles, representing 10,076 volumes, and 7,386 pamphlets, as well as 8,572 subject-titles of separate works, and 28,846 titles of articles in periodicals.

In the *Bulletin of the Boston Public Library*, No. 63, commences a list of Franklin's works (*a*) as owned by the Library, (*b*) as not owned and desired.

The subjects treated in the *Reference Lists* of the Providence Public Library for October are Daniel Webster and the Gregorian Calendar.

The *Literary News* for October contains "Notes on Reading," by Arthur Penn.

It having been urged against the alphabetico-classed system of numbering books that it did not admit of a shelf list, Mr. Schwartz meets objectors with an article on "a new form of shelf list," in the October number of the *Library Journal*.

A list of the novels, plays and poems, illustrated with vignettes, and published within 1825 and 1840, is included in "Les vignettes romantiques; histoire de la littérature et de l'art, 1825–40; par Champfleury [Jules Fleury]," (Paris: E. Dentu, 1882. 8vo, 450 pp., 140 vignettes and 10 plates, price 50 frs.).

A bibliography of the writings of the antiquary Jules Quicherat, containing 363 numbers, appeared in the *Bibliothèque de l'Ecole des Chartes*, Tome XLIII., 1882, pt. 4.

The eleventh edition of "Histoire de la littérature grecque; par Alexis Pierron," (Paris: Hachette, 1882, sm. 8vo, pp. viii—656, price 4 frs.) contains a bibliographical appendix.

The publication of the *Annales du Bibliophile Belge* (Olivier) is to be resumed.

An appendix to the first volume of the following work contains a bibliography of the poet's writings: "Ferdinand Freiligrath, ein Dichterleben in Briefen, von Wilhelm Buchner," (Lahr: M. Schauenburg, 1882, 2 vols. 8vo).

A list of the printed works of the *maestro* is appended to "Carl Maria von Weber, sein Leben und seine Werke dargestellt von August Reismann" (Berlin: Oppenheim, 1882, 8vo.)

A good catalogue of the interesting exhibition of objects connected with the history of printing at Vienna can be purchased for two shillings: "Katalog der historischen Ausstellung von Wiener Buchdruck-Erzeugnissen, 1482–1882," (Wien: Frick, 1882, 8vo, pp. viii—133).

A bibliography of the writings of Filippo Pananti has been added to a new edition of his "Rime e prose, con un cenno sulla sua vita

per cura di Pietro Gori (Firenze: A. Salani, 1882, sm. 8vo, pp. 480, price 2 lire).

As foreign cataloguers always delight in ignoring the fashion among us to give surnames as forenames, one may perhaps excuse the placing of a work by the English surgeon Mr. Spencer Wells in the "Bibliografia Italiana" for November 15th under Spencer, but *Walter-Scott*, as a new compound name, under Walter in the very same number is rather too severe a rebuke to our insular peculiarities.

FORTHCOMING BIBLIOGRAPHIES, ETC.

Mr. W. Satchell is preparing a list of all the topographical works *not* in the British Museum, a book which will complete Mr. Anderson's excellent *Book of English Topography*. Mr. Satchell also proposes to index papers in antiquarian and other periodicals and transactions.

A bibliography of North American philology is being prepared by Mr. J. C. Pilling, of the U.S. Bureau of Ethnology. Originally intended merely as a card-catalogue for official use, the compilation has gradually assumed proportions which seem to justify its publication. It will be arranged alphabetically under authors' names, and will consist of a catalogue of writings in or upon any of the languages of North America. There are at present about 4,500 cards, representing perhaps 3,000 titles. The work of classifying these materials linguistically is to be left to a future work, which will embody the results of an attempt to classify the North American tribes upon the basis of language.

Mr. Poole writes on November 18th, "Returned the *last proof* of my index to-day. The publishers will have it out surely and promptly in December. They are rushing the printers. I have just received 534 printed pages. It will make a beautiful book."

We are glad to be able to announce the publication of a most important work on the history of binding, a subject which has never been treated with the skill and patience it deserves. Some recent English books, it is perhaps unnecessary to add, are singularly inadequate. The title will be "Histoire de la reliure et des relieurs Français." The writer, M. Er. Thoinan, has taken great pains to draw up precise genealogical accounts of the different members of the great binding families, such as Derome, Padeloup, Le Monnier, &c.

The firm of Dante at Florence has begun the publication of a *Collezione di curiosità inedite o rare*, which is to contain a reprint of the "Index bibliothecae Laurentianae an. 1536," edited by Signor Alvisi. Two new works of Signor Giacomo Manzoni are announced by Romagnoli, of Bologna. The titles are "Studi de bibliografia analitica," and "Annali delle edizioni sonciniane."

London: TRÜBNER & CO., Ludgate Hill.
Single Numbers, Threepence each. Annual Subscription, post free, 3s. 6d.